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THE 2006 SWIMSUIT ISSUE

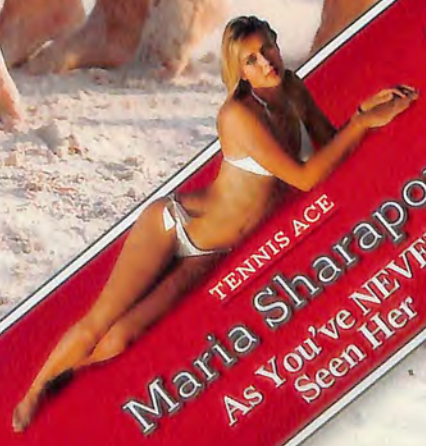
Heidi Klum Wearing Just Paint

Sports Illustrated

All-Star SI Cover Model

Beach Party

Veronica, Elle, Rebecca, Rachel, Daniela, Elsa, Carolyn and Yamila



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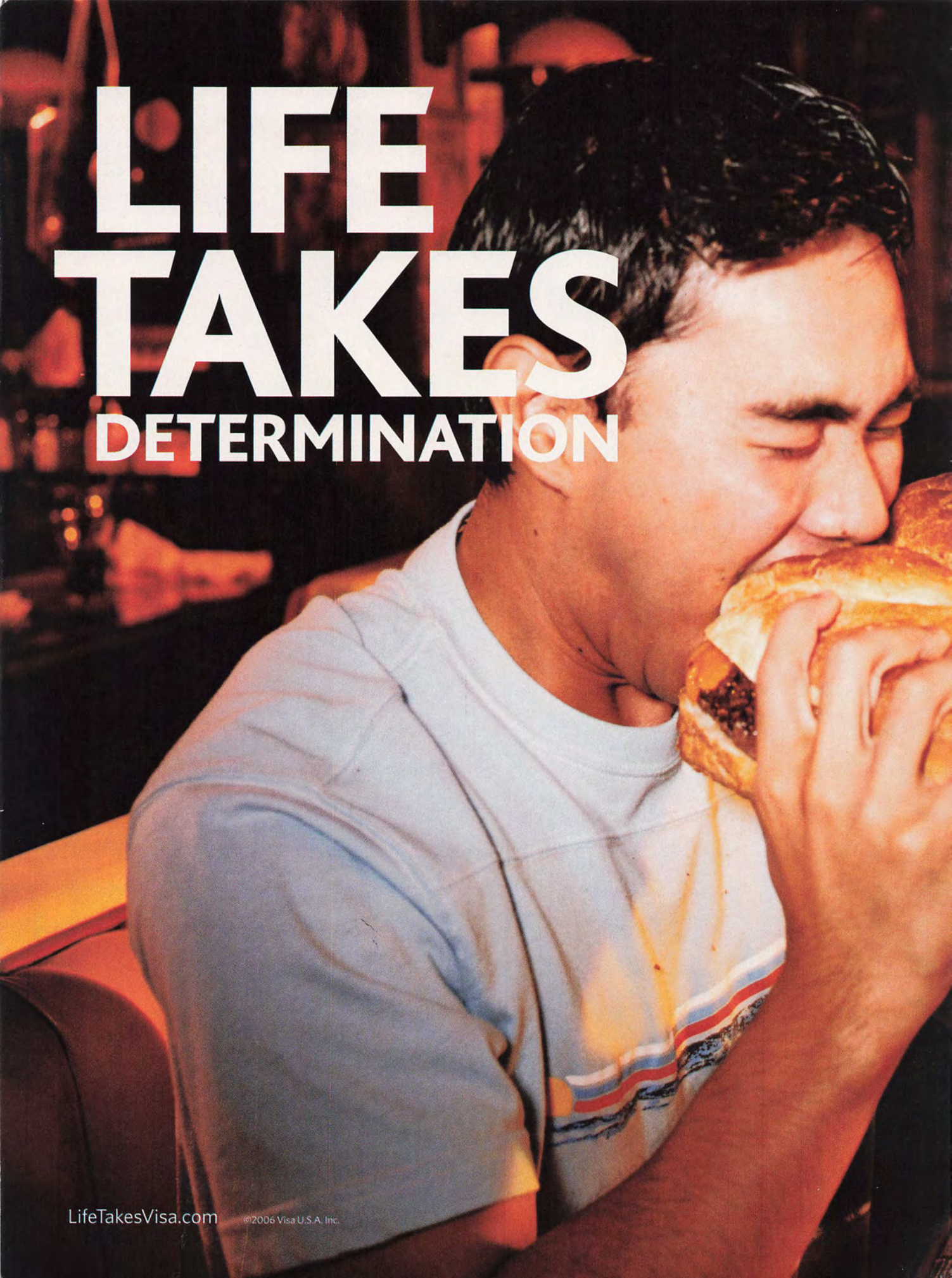
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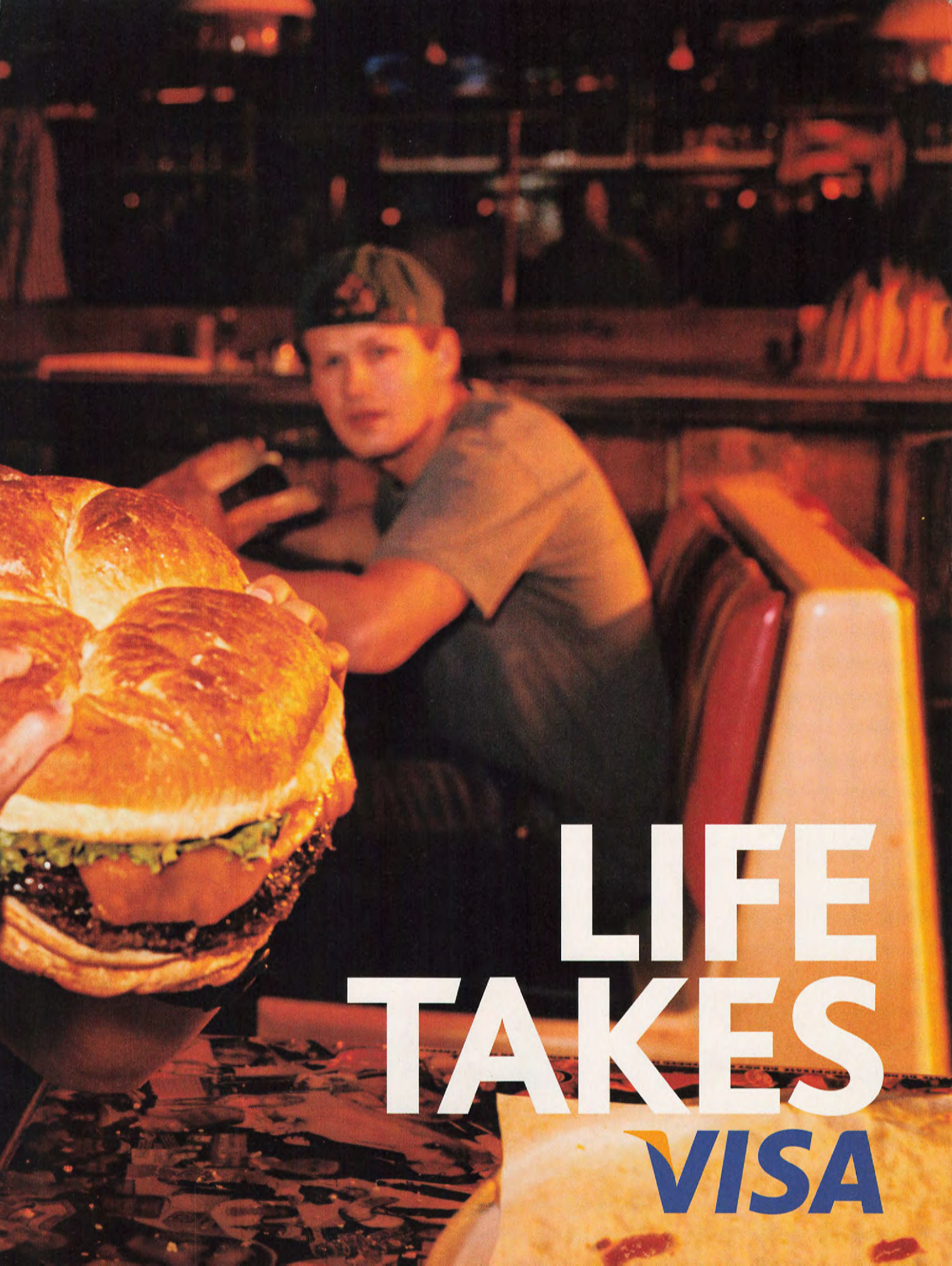
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HAIR BY PETER BUTLER FOR ARTISTSBYTIMOTHYPRIANO.COM

MAKEUP BY VICKY STECKEL @ ART DEPARTMENT USING DIOR

THIS PAGE:

Ana Beatriz Barros

Photograph by STEWART SHINING

SWIMSUIT BY LETARTE BY LISA CABRINHA ($160)

SARONG BY COOLCHANGE ($80)

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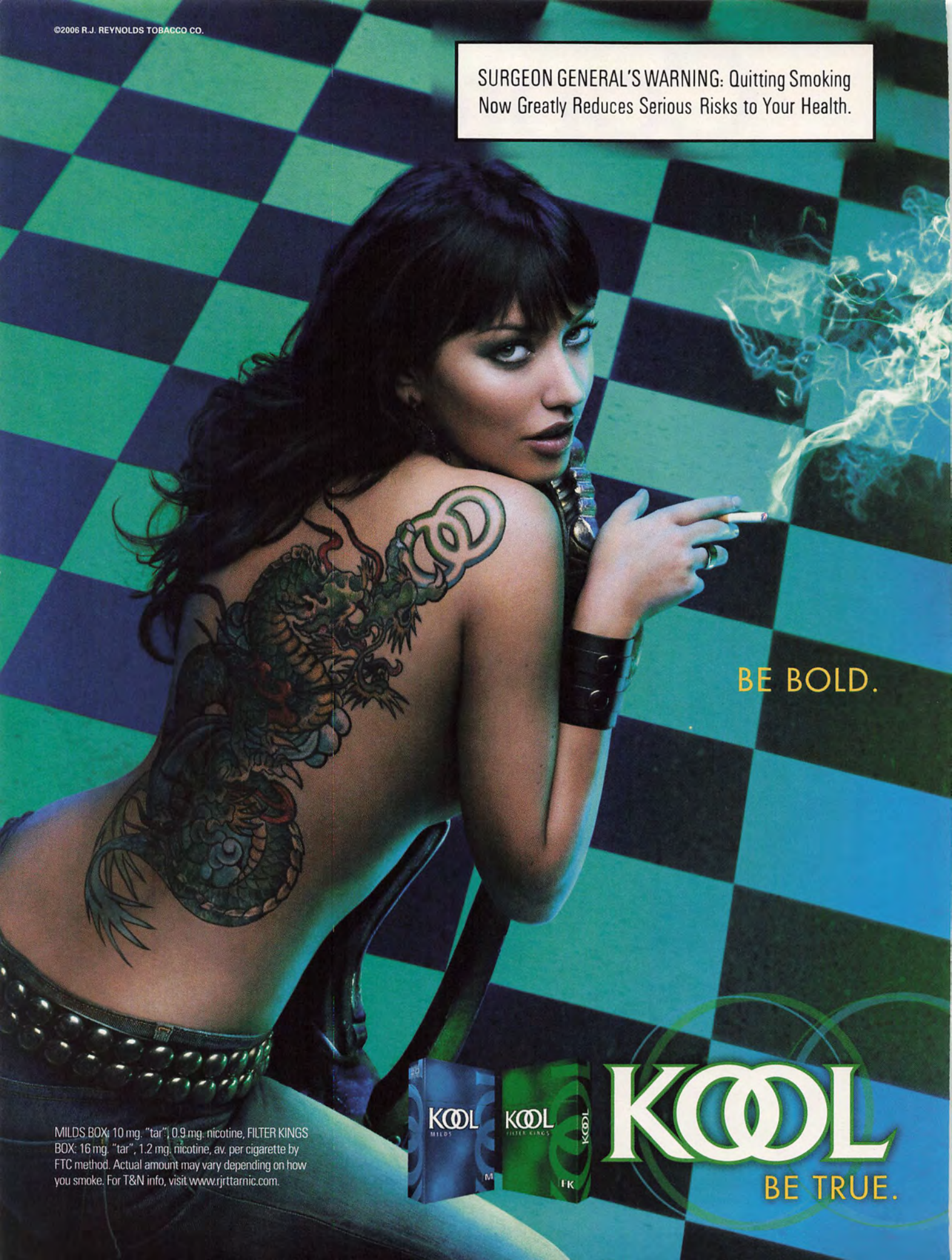

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Photographs by STEWART SHINING

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CHAPS
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Photographs by WALTER IOOSS JR.

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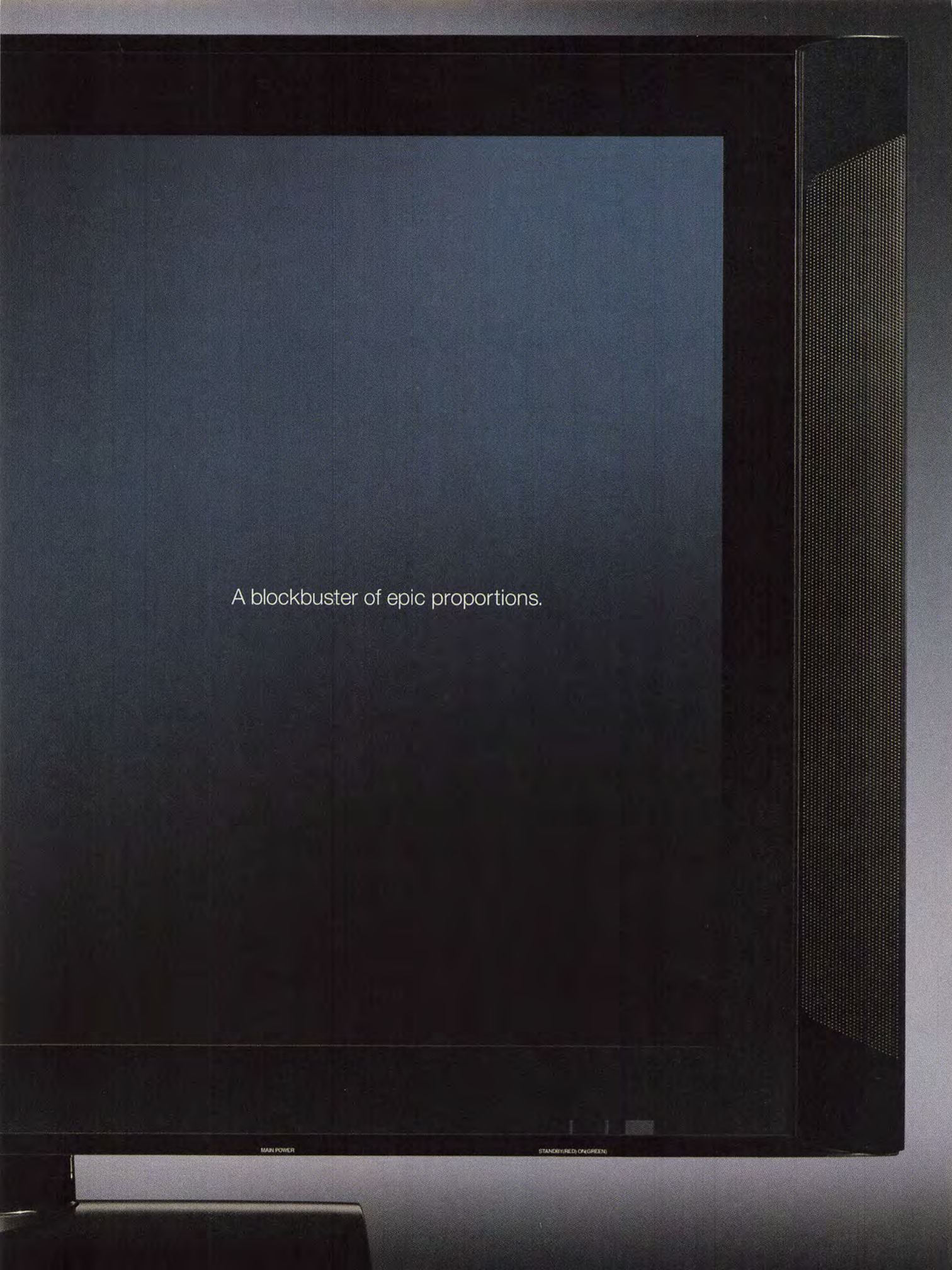
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ULTRAVISION

PHOTOGRAPHERS

Raphael Mazzucco

This New York–based photographer did the SI cover girls and Molly Sims shoots. His favorite moment came when Sims first saw her diamond-studded suit. "These gems make Paris Hilton's diamonds look like rhinestones," she said.

Walter Iooss Jr.

A Swimsuit veteran who lives on Long Island, he did the Maria Sharapova shoot. "She knows she looks good in front of a camera," Iooss says. "I see why she's such a great player. Even as a model she has phenomenal focus."

Steve Erle

A Swimsuit regular since 2002, this Hollywood Hills denizen shot our Tinseltown tribute. His idea of purr-fection: putting Noemie Lenoir in his Jaguar with a leopard. If you're scoring at home, that's three wildcats in one car.

Tiziano Magni

He confesses that he had embarked for his shoot in Colombia with some fear. "I was afraid of encountering rebels and drug dealers," he says, "but the Colombians were very welcoming and as sweet as those coconut cookies they make."

Stewart Shining

His SI jobs have all been T&A: Tahiti, Thailand, Tunisia, Turkey, the Adirondacks and Argentina. A model in Tahiti had a late-night burger jones. "She had to be talked out of breaking into the hotel kitchen and grilling one herself," he says.

LISA MARIE (MAZZUCCO); BJORN IOOSS (IOOSS); KENDRA RICHARDS (ERLE); THEA MAGNI (MAGNI); HOLLY LI (SHINING); DIANE SMITH (2); STEWART PRICE (3)

BODY CANVASSER

Joanne Gair

"Sometimes she pulls paintbrushes from behind my ear and starts doodling on herself," says Joanne Gair of her friend and collaborative canvas, Heidi Klum. They have worked together nine times since meeting in 1997, including seven SI stints. "Heidi appreciates the art," says Gair, better known to friends as Kiwi Jo, a tribute to her native New Zealand. "She realizes it's not as easy as *abracadabra*."

But the effect can be magical, which is why Gair's work—she painted the famed three-piece pinstriped birthday suit on Demi Moore for *Vanity Fair* in 1992—has earned her international fame. Last year she published her first book, *Paint A'Licious: The Pain-Free Way to Achieving Your Naked Ambitions*, and this fall will publish *Body Painting*, a retrospective of her images from the past two decades. "I find my models come to the table really excited by the whole process," says Gair. "It's liberating to be wearing nothing. If you have ever gone swimming naked, you know what I mean."

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Aline Nakashima

AGE: 24
BORN: São José dos Campos, Brazil
LIVES IN: New York City and São Paulo
DISCOVERED: At 17, at a model tryout in Brazil
YOU CAN'T CLASSIFY ME BECAUSE . . . I'm half Brazilian and half Japanese. I have the whole Brazilian thing down—I like to party—but I have an Asian side, so I sometimes like being quiet and having time of my own.
I'M GETTING INTO . . . basketball—the Lakers—but I love soccer. I can't wait until the World Cup starts in June. Last time I got up in the middle of the night to watch. Go Brazil!
I CAN'T LIVE WITHOUT . . . chocolate. You'll always find some in my luggage.
IF I WERE NOT A MODEL . . . I'd be a masseuse. I practice on my friends and beg them, "Let me do your back, please!"

SWIMSUIT BY SOLEIL BY JEAN PAUL GAULTIER ($320)

HAIR BY LOUIS ANGELO FOR KERASTASE PARIS @ JUDY CASEY
MAKEUP BY GLENN MARZIALI

STEWART SHINING

Pania Rose

AGE: 21
BORN: Perth, Australia
LIVES IN: Bellport, N.Y.
DISCOVERED: At 17, after winning a modeling competition for Australia's *Girlfriend* magazine
I COLLECT . . . anything old, like vintage fabrics and furniture. My husband and I own a 1967 yellow Chevy pickup truck. It's a rust bucket, but that's part of its allure.
GROWING UP IN AUSTRALIA . . . made me desperate to travel, to see the world.
IF I WERE NOT A MODEL . . . I'd be living in the country, growing my own vegetables, sewing and making furniture. I'd be living like a hippie.
THE NAME *PANIA* COMES FROM . . . a Maori legend. My name means Princess of the Sea.

SWIMSUIT BY SHINE BY ZIMMERMANN ($98)
NECKLACES BY LINKS OF LONDON (TOP:$595; BOTTOM: $490)

HAIR BY JOHN RUGGIERO FOR BUMBLE + BUMBLE
MAKEUP BY KATARINA HAKANSSON FOR HAKANSSONSKIN.COM

TIZIANO MAGNI

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Next time, use the strongest Old Spice clear gel on the planet.
New Red Zone Clear Gel.

Carla Campbell

Age: 24
BORN: Kingston, Jamaica
LIVES IN: New York City and Kingston
DISCOVERED: In 1997 I entered a big model competition in Jamaica and placed in the top three.
ON WHY JAMAICA IS A POPULAR VACATION SPOT: Probably because a lot of Jamaican women are busty and beautiful.
MY DAILY RITUAL IS . . . saying to myself, every morning, "Keep the faith." Fear's not an option for me.
TO RELAX . . . I drink a beer or two—and chat with my boyfriend.
MY FAVORITE WORD IS . . . *zeen*. It's Jamaican and means everything is all right, understood.
THE ONE ITEM I CAN'T LIVE WITHOUT IS . . . my lip gloss. I think my lips are very sensual, and I'd like to keep them that way. You look at my lips, and you think, Whoa, I'd like to kiss *that* girl!

SWIMSUIT BY ST. JOHN ($240)

HAIR BY ERIC GABRIEL @ THEREXAGENCY.COM
MAKEUP BY VICKY STECKEL @ ART DEPARTMENT
USING DIOR

WALTER IOOSS JR.

ADVERTISEMENT

THE NUMBER

PERRY ELLIS

THIS WAS A NEW ONE: I WAS FEELING GUILTY AND ALL I WAS DOING WAS TALKING TO SOMEONE.

GRANTED, THAT SOMEONE HAPPENED TO BE A BEAUTIFUL WOMAN I HAD JUST MET IN A BAR...

AND, OKAY, THAT BEAUTIFUL WOMAN WAS A DIFFERENT BEAUTIFUL WOMAN THAN THE ONE I'D BEEN DATING EXCLUSIVELY FOR THE PAST EIGHT MONTHS. BUT STILL...SINCE WHEN WAS TALKING A CRIME?

RYAN AND BILL HAD BEEN EGGING ME ON ALL NIGHT, APPARENTLY LOOKING FOR SOME SORT OF VICARIOUS GRATIFICATION.

SHE KEEPS GLANCING OVER HERE AND SMILING, AND WE ALL KNOW SHE'S NOT LOOKING AT ME! JUST GO TALK TO HER, DUDE!

WHILE BILL TRIED TO PERSUADE ME WITH THE SHEER FORCE OF HIS DESPERATE ENTHUSIASM, RYAN TOOK A MORE REASONED APPROACH.

I KNOW YOU THINK THAT YOU COULD NEVER DO BETTER THAN MORGAN, AND I DON'T NECESSARILY DISAGREE. BUT SOMETIMES THAT'S JUST NOT THE POINT, OKAY? WHAT ABOUT "DOING DIFFERENT"?

MAYBE THEY CONVINCED ME OR MAYBE I WAS JUST TRYING TO SHUT THEM UP, BUT THERE I WAS. ALL MY BEST JOKES AND ANECDOTES WERE SUDDENLY FRESH AGAIN, AND I HAD THE FEELING THAT ANYTHING WAS POSSIBLE.

BUT JUST BECAUSE AN OPPORTUNITY PRESENTS ITSELF, THAT DOESN'T MEAN YOU ALWAYS HAVE TO TAKE IT, RIGHT? THERE WAS NO DENYING THE MUTUAL ATTRACTION, BUT AFTER A DRINK OR TWO, I KNEW EXACTLY HOW THE NIGHT WAS GOING TO PLAY OUT.

ON THE CAB RIDE HOME, I DISCOVERED IT: A STILL-DAMP NAPKIN INSCRIBED WITH BLUE BALLPOINT, SURREPTITIOUSLY FOLDED INTO MY COAT POCKET.

THE NAPKIN ENDED UP IN THE TRASH SOON ENOUGH, BUT NOT BEFORE I'D STARED AT IT FOR A GOOD LONG MINUTE, IMPLORING MYSELF NOT TO COMMIT THE HASTILY-SCRIBBLED NUMBERS TO MEMORY.

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PERRY ELLIS

perryellis.com

Brooklyn Decker

AGE: 18
BORN: Middletown, Ohio, but raised in Charlotte
LIVES IN: New York City
DISCOVERED: At 16, by the owner of a modeling agency, while shopping at a mall in Charlotte
I LIVE FOR . . . the North Carolina Tar Heels and the Carolina Panthers.
SO I HATE . . . Duke. You bleed Carolina blue when you are a Carolina fan, and Duke is stuffy and uptight.
I'M NAMED FOR . . . a horse named Brook. My mom loved the name. My dad liked Brooklyn because it's a longer version of Brook—and they'd never been to New York.
MY PARENTS ARE . . . in the medical profession. My dad implants pacemakers, and my mom's a nurse, so you'd be in safe hands with me if you ever got hurt in Charlotte.

SWIMSUIT BY SUNSETS ($100)
NECKLACES BY (TOP) LIZZIE SCHECK JEWELRY ($965), LINKS OF LONDON ($490)
BRACELET BY AGATHA PARIS ($32)

HAIR BY JOHN RUGGIERO FOR BUMBLE + BUMBLE
MAKEUP BY KATARINA HAKANSSON FOR HAKANSSONSKIN.COM

TIZIANO MAGNI

Yesica Toscanini

AGE: 20
BORN: Junin, Argentina but moved to Ituzaingo when she was four
LIVES IN: Buenos Aires
DISCOVERED: In Argentina, at the age of 15. I started to notice I was taller than anyone my age so I thought, Why not try modeling? My father took me to a casting call, and that's when I met my manager.
SPEAKS: Spanish. I'm learning English. And I really like Italian because my last name sounds like big Italian music.
WHAT YOU SHOULD KNOW ABOUT BRAZIL IS . . . Buenos Aires is a very special place—many people say it is a Little Paris. The people are kind, and the nightlife is very similar to that in New York City.
YOU WOULD BE SURPRISED TO KNOW . . . I love Agatha Christie novels. I like intrigue, suspense.
IF I WEREN'T MODELING I'D BE . . . a nutritionist.

SWIMSUIT BY DELFINA SWIMWEAR ($250)
EARRINGS BY ROXANNE ASSOULIN FOR LEE ANGEL ($245)

HAIR BY TED GIBSON FOR AVEDA @ TED GIBSON SALON
MAKEUP BY STEVEN ATURO @ ARTISTSTIMOTHYPRIANO.COM USING THI COSMETICS

STEVE ERLE

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PROMOTION

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SI photographers have taken millions of photos in the 40 plus years of Swimsuit issues. Which is the best? That's up to you. We've helped by narrowing it down to 16 classics that have been put on a tournament-style grid. Over the next few weeks, vote for your favorites round by round according to the schedule you see below. And on March 26, SI.com will reveal the most beautiful SI Swimsuit photo ever, as decided by you and your friends.

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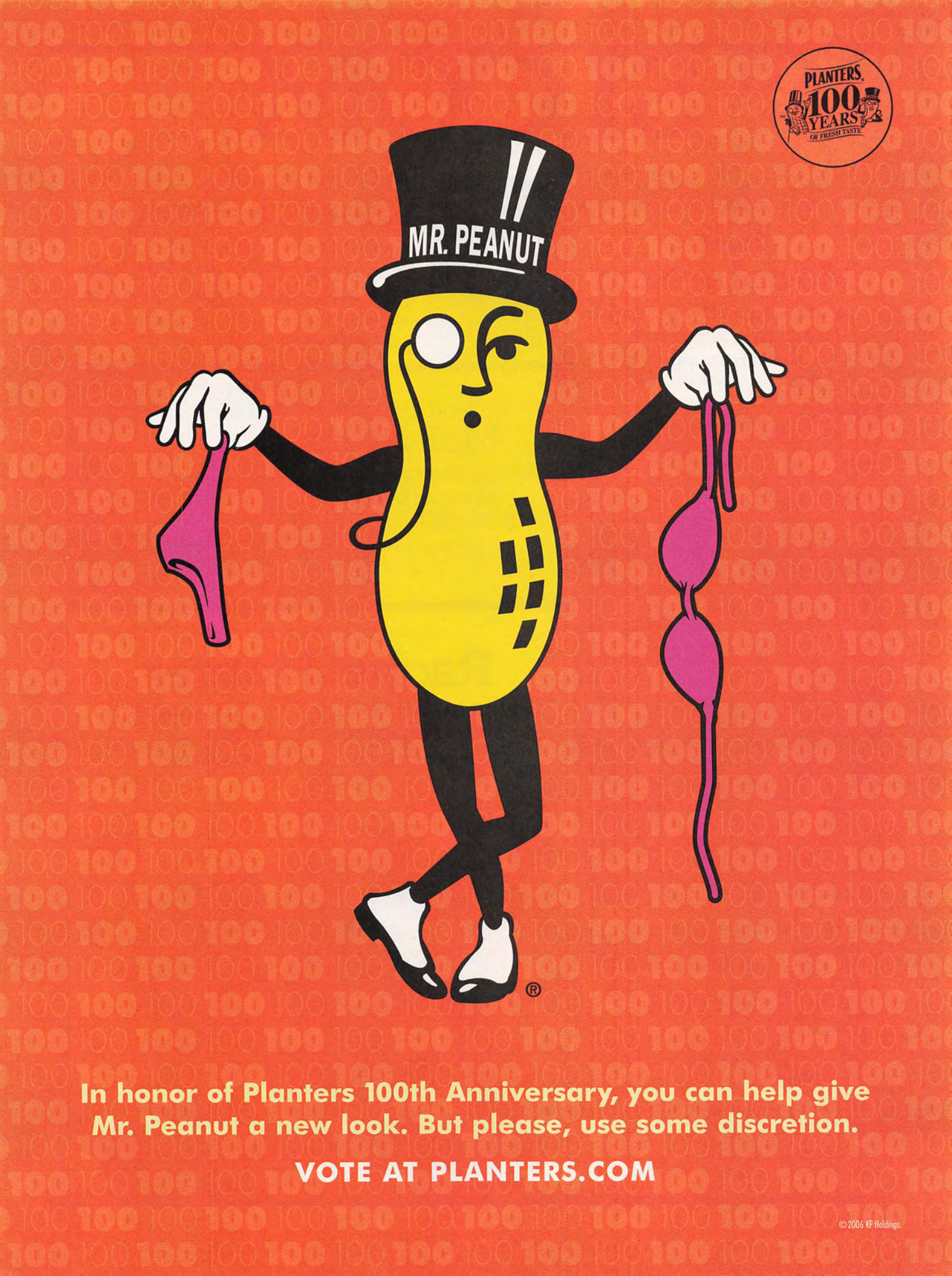
Voting Dates:

Round 1: Eight Matchups > Feb. 14–23
Round 2: Four Matchups > Feb. 24–March 5
Round 3: Semifinal Matchups > March 6–15
Round 4: Final Matchup > March 16–25
Winner announced online March 26

Vote now at SI.COM
si.com/swimbracket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THE NEWS IN BRIEFS

Elle Macpherson

wants to sell you her panties . . . and bras

FOR DETAILS, GO TO ›› SI.COM/MACPHERSON

HERE COMES THE BRIDE

Rebecca Romijn

gives you another good reason to watch the WB: her new sitcom, *Pepper Dennis*

FOR DETAILS, GO TO ›› SI.COM/ROMIJN

THIS DOESN'T STAY IN *VEGAS*

Molly Sims

reveals the downside of strapping on a $30 million bikini

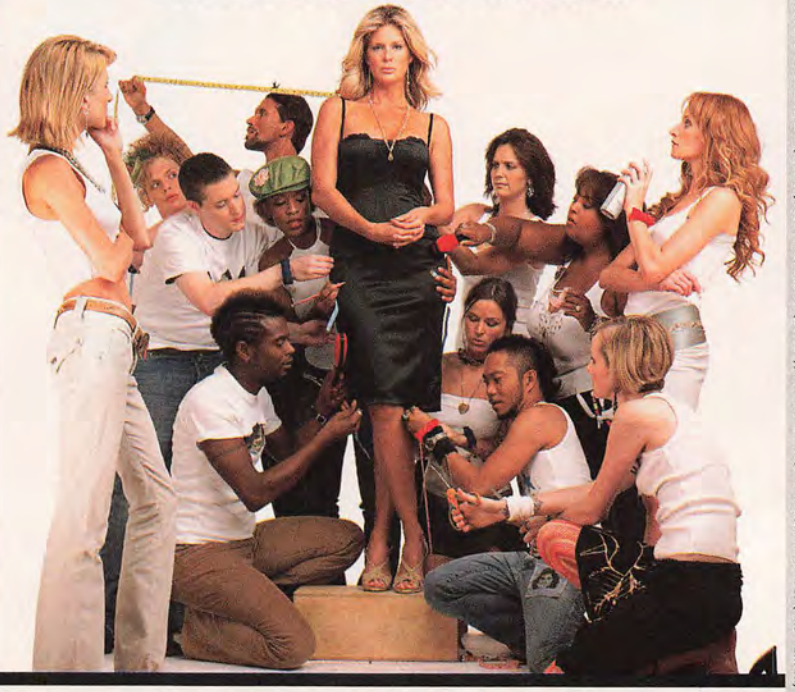
FOR DETAILS, GO TO ›› SI.COM/SIMS

HANGING WITH STACY'S MOM

Rachel Hunter

talks about reality TV—and kissing Napoleon Dynamite

FOR DETAILS, GO TO ›› SI.COM/HUNTER



REAL WORLD STOPS SPINNING

Mallory Snyder

talks about her dreams for the future (think extreme sports and a restaurant)

FOR DETAILS, GO TO ›› SI.COM/SNYDER

PATRICK ECCLESINE/©THE WB (ROMIJN); MITCH HAASETH/NBC UNIVERSAL PHOTO (SIMS); WE: WOMEN'S ENTERTAINMENT (HUNTER); RUDY ARCHULETTA (SNYDER); ANTHONY JONES/UK PRESS/GETTY IMAGES (MACPHERSON)

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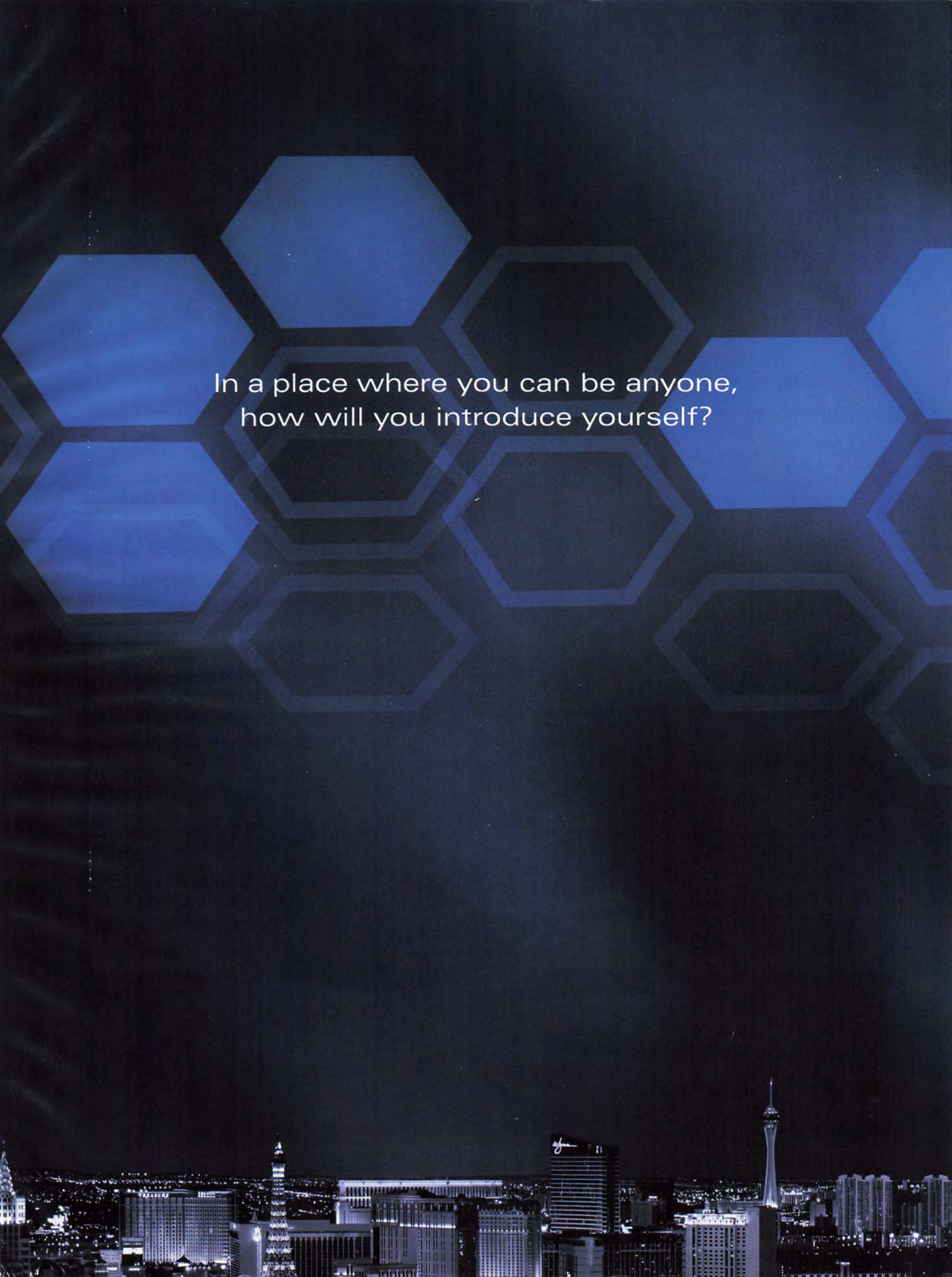
SI.COVERMODELREUNION.COM

Assembling eight of SI's greatest swimsuit cover models for a reunion in the Bahamas was a monumental achievement, but why stop there? On the SI website, there are more than 100 behind-the-scenes photos of this historic summit, allowing you to see candid moments involving Elsa Benitez, Yamila Diaz-Rahi, Rachel Hunter, Elle Macpherson, Carolyn Murphy, Daniela Pestova, Rebecca Romijn and Veronica Varekova.

RAPHAEL MAZZUCCO (CENTER, TOP); DIANE SMITH (7)

In a place where you can be anyone,
how will you introduce yourself?



Who will you be?

NAME	PROFESSION	HOME

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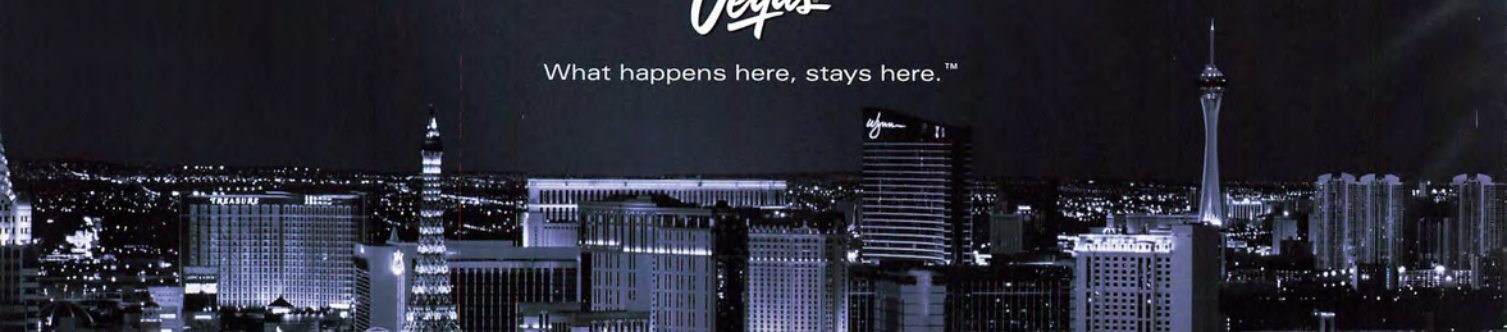

Q+A

Kid Rock

Kid Rock, Detroit's favorite wastrel minstrel, is releasing a new album on Feb. 28, and SI.com will be the exclusive carrier of the video for his first single, *Rock and Roll Pain Train,* until March 1. That video includes footage from this year's Swimsuit shoots, which makes some kind of sense, since Rock is an avid fan of sports and of beautiful women, especially if they're good sports.

S.I. | You've dated a bevy of attractive women, including Pamela Anderson. What's the best compliment ever paid to you by a swimsuit model?

Kid Rock | I've run into models, some of the swimsuit persuasion, who take pole-dancing classes. A few of them have told me my songs are part of their curriculum. I'm flattered.

S.I. | Any impressions of swimsuit models you'd care to share with the public at large?

KR | Swimsuit models would be a lot cooler if they were strippers.

S.I. | Did many people mistake your 1999 *Between the Legs Tour* for a tribute to the great NFL centers?

KR | I don't think anyone made that mistake.

S.I. | One of your songs was an anthem of sorts in Oliver Stone's film *Any Given Sunday.* Have the Dallas Cowboys ever asked to use your song *Cowboy* as a rallying cry?

KR | No. I did try to get their cheerleaders to appear with me on *The Tonight Show,* but the team didn't think I was clean-cut enough and wouldn't allow them to go on with me. The Cowboys cheerleaders were allowed to perform with me in Iraq, though.

S.I. | What was it like to be sitting courtside at The Palace in 2004 when Pistons fans mixed it up with Pacers players?

KR | It was extremely entertaining. How 'bout Ron Artest getting hit with a full beer? Probably the best shot ever made at The Palace. Talk about a *SportsCenter* highlight.

S.I. | You've had your share of scuffles and arrests. Ever thought you might have a problem with anger management?

KR | Not an anger problem. It's more of a drinking problem.

Pretty Playlists

iModel

Sure, SI's Swimsuit models are attractive, but they're pretty easy on the ears, too. Don't believe it? Check out some of their playlists on SI.com, where Daniela Pestova reveals what she listens to when she's *not* listening to her boyfriend (and his band), and Pania Rose swoons over what should be the theme song for this issue: *Dream a Little Dream of Me.*

SI.COM/SWIMSUITMUSIC

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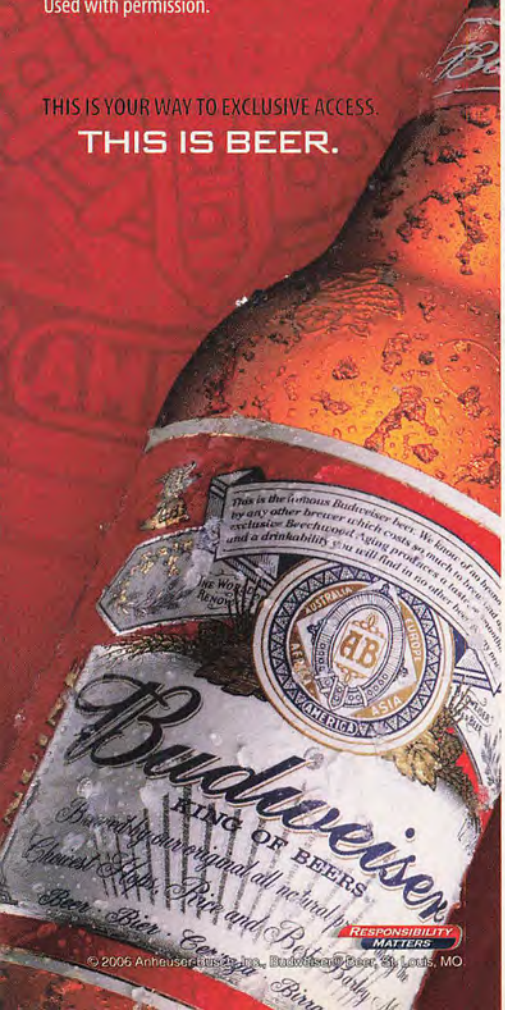

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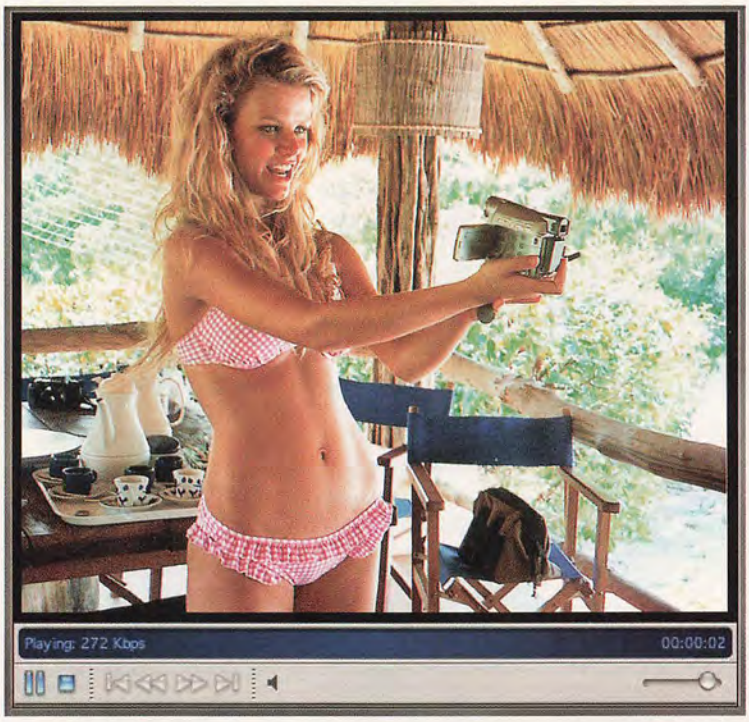
SI.COM VIDEOS



Candid Cameras

Who needs Hollywood? Give a video camera to a supermodel on a swimsuit shoot in an exotic locale, and *King Kong* looks like just another movie about an underdressed tourist lost in New York City. You can see more than 40 videos on demand from this year's Swimsuit shoots, including five model diaries, on-the-set footage of Heidi Klum's incendiary bodypainting session and intimate footage from all the shoots, including Maria Sharapova's day at the beach, the All-Star reunion and much more.

SI.COM/SWIMSUITVIDEO

DIGITAL SWIMSUIT

SI.COM/SWIMSUITEXTRA

Want a quick peek at the future? You can see what a digital version of the Swimsuit Issue might look like at SI.com. Instead of turning pages, just ride your mouse from hot spot to even hotter spot.

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STEVE ERLE

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LOCATION: THE CULVER STUDIOS

ACCOMMODATIONS: W HOTEL LOS ANGELES—WESTWOOD

Anne V

SWIMSUIT BY CYN & LUCA ($128)

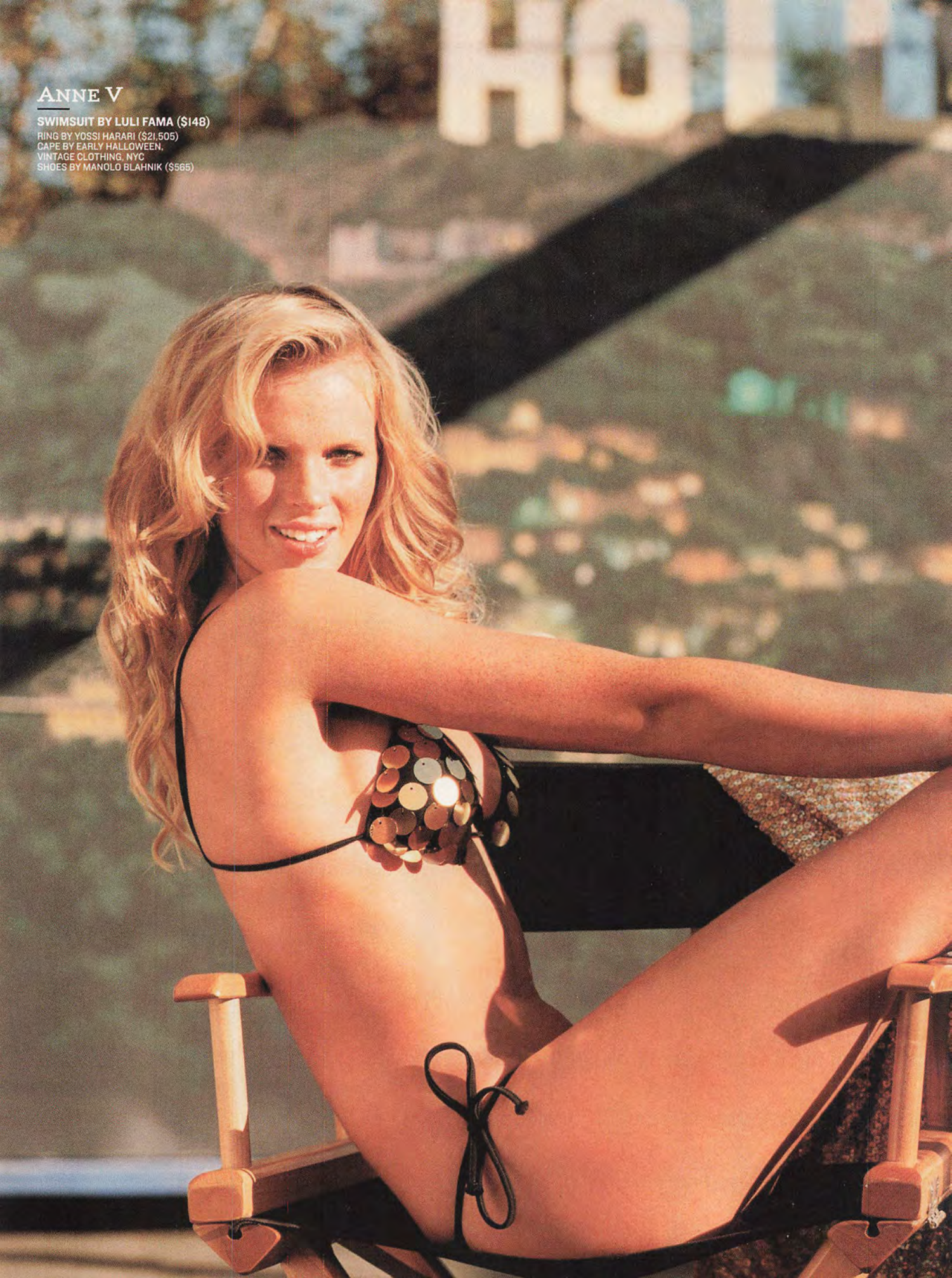
NECKLACE BY
ROXANNE ASSOULIN FOR LEE ANGEL ($115)

LOCATION: JURASSIC PARK
THE RIDE AT UNIVERSAL STUDIOS HOLLYWOOD

YESICA TOSCANINI

SWIMSUIT BY
BEACH BUNNY SWIMWEAR ($398)
SHOES BY SOIXANTE NEUF ($145)
LOCATION: PINK'S FAMOUS HOT DOGS

MIKE DITKA
FRITZ COLEMAN
ktla5
George Pennacchio
pink



ANNE V

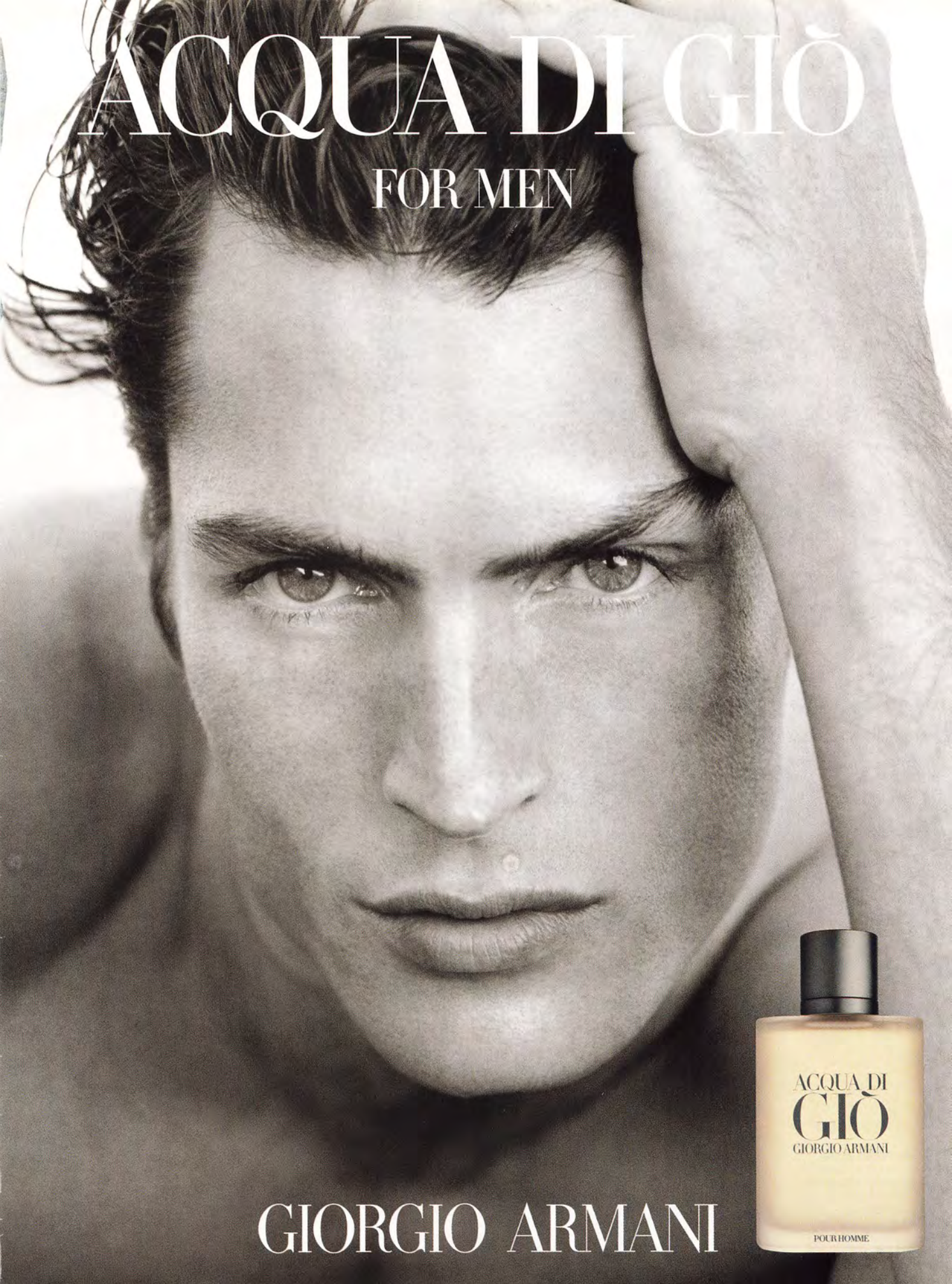
SWIMSUIT BY LULI FAMA ($148)
RING BY YOSSI HARARI ($21,505)
CAPE BY EARLY HALLOWEEN, VINTAGE CLOTHING, NYC
SHOES BY MANOLO BLAHNIK ($565)

WOOD

NOEMIE LENOIR

SWIMSUIT BY
VANDA CATUCCI ($206)

NOEMIE
LENOIR
SWIMSUIT BY
PURSUIT ($106)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YESICA TOSCANINI

TOP BY LULI FAMA ($120)
BOTTOM BY GOTTEX
(PRICE UPON REQUEST)
RING BY SWAROVSKI ($235)

ANNE V

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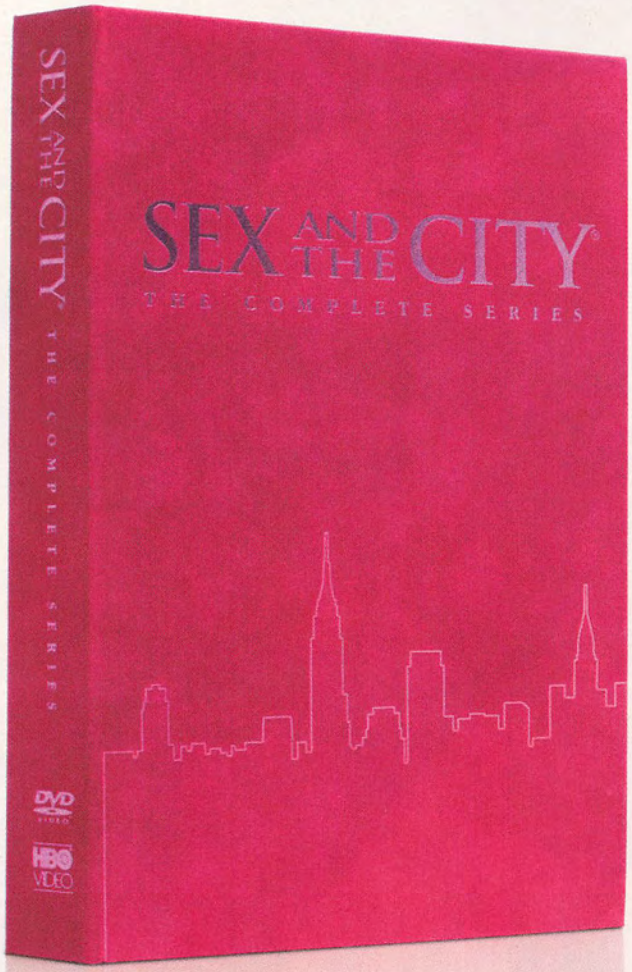
LOCATION: PANN'S RESTAURANT & COFFEE SHOP

HBO VIDEO



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Maria Sharapova

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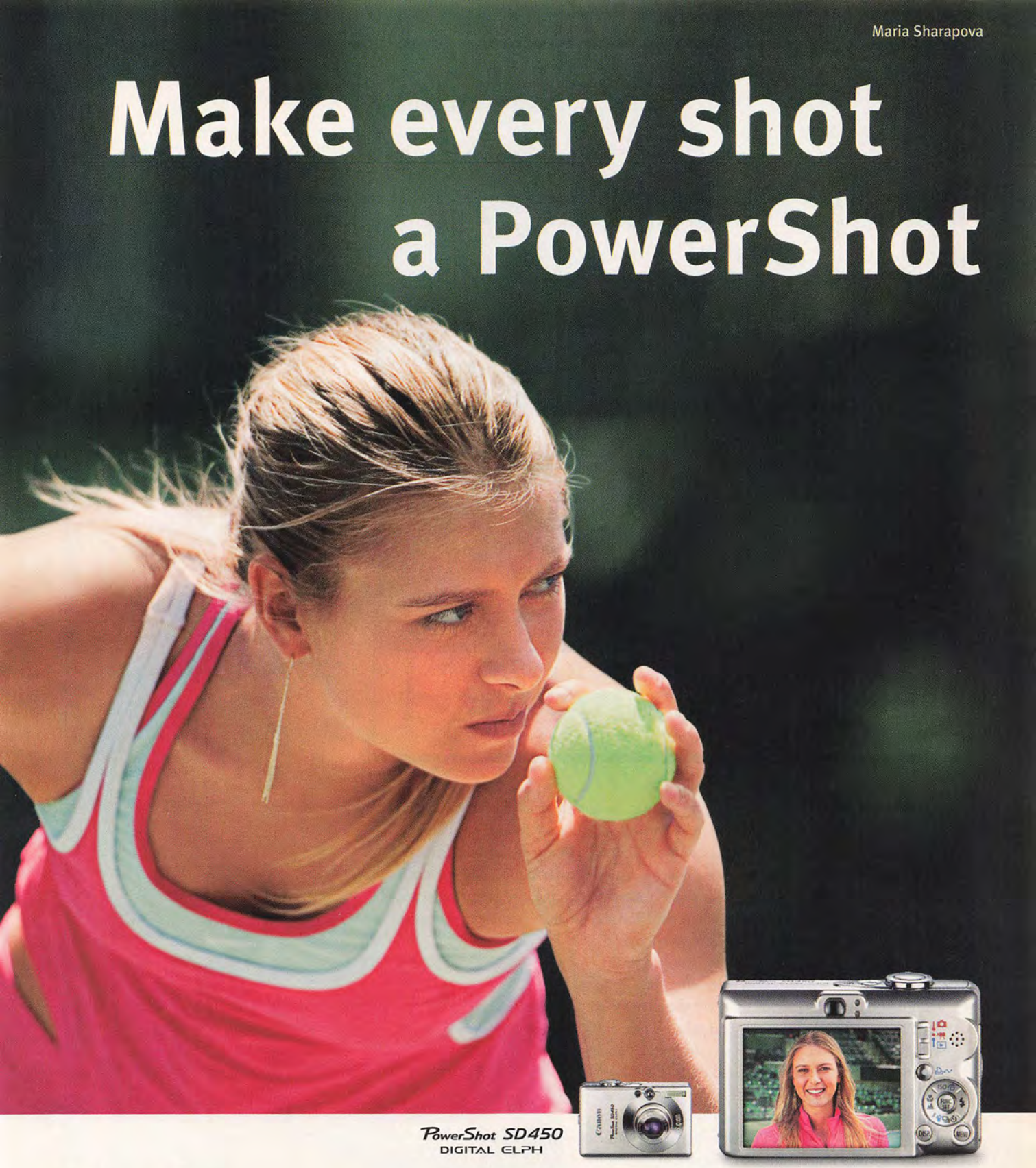

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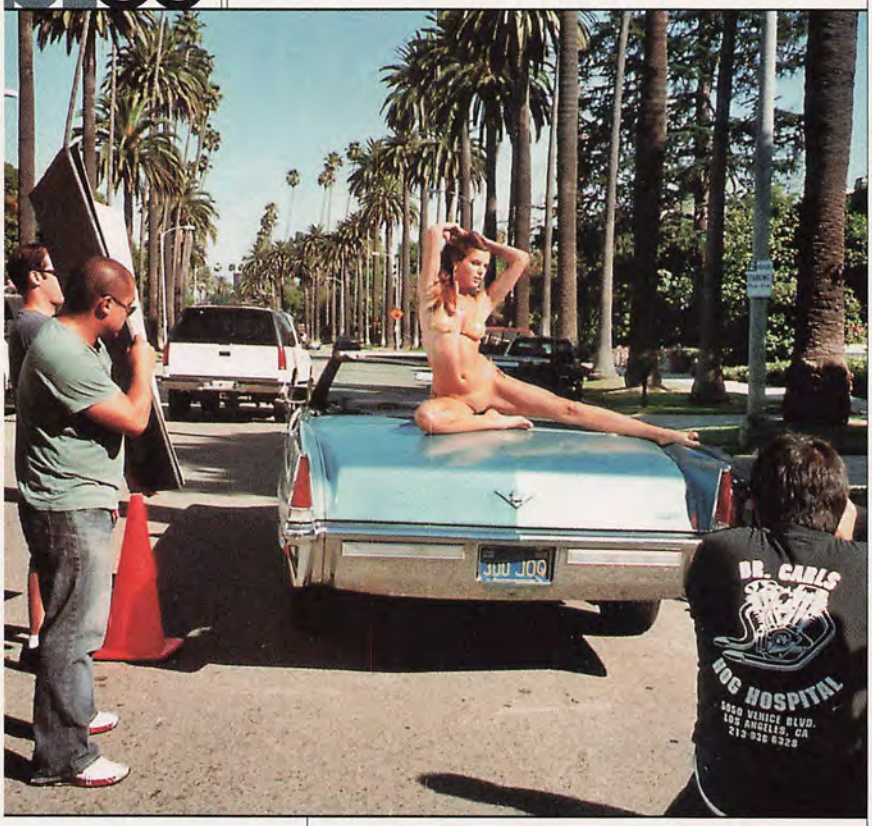

■ Yesica Toscanini is in the driver's seat, in her inimitable fashion, while parked in Beverly Hills. Anne V has her puppies pampered by make-up artist Steven Aturo at Pink's, L.A.'s mecca for dog lovers of all kinds.

W HOTEL LOS ANGELES –WESTWOOD

Hollywood

L.A. Vida Seduction is everywhere in this town, even inside an RV at eight in the morning. "You're going to fall in love with me by this afternoon," says Anne V, who is plying me with caviar, crackers and Russian vodka as we roll down La Brea Avenue, heading for her Swimsuit shoot. I have never eaten caviar at this hour—or at any hour, for that matter. Nor have I ever before rolled through the streets of Hollywood with a Russian supermodel. But I swallow hard and play tough. "It's going to take more time than that," I say. But Anne V is unconvinced. "You're going to fall in love with me," she says again. "Everyone does." Which makes her perfect for L.A., a town that has Sirens singing on every corner. At the sleek and sexy W Hotel in Westwood, where a humble sportswriter had been (miraculously) assigned a penthouse suite, the impeccably dressed general manager tells me that his hotel is all about three words: eating, drinking and flirting. I do all three: I lunch poolside at the W across from Malcolm McDowell, next to water as blue as Miles Davis. I sip champagne with Noemie Lenoir at the Chateau Marmont, high above Sunset Boulevard. And I flirt with disaster while driving during rush hour on the 405. All in the same day. Damn, a guy could really fall for this town. *—Richard Deitsch*

DIANE SMITH (4)

DODGE

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BUCKLE UP

Bodypainting and photographs by
JOANNE GAIR

Pinup Dream

Heidi Klum

In homage to the glamour girls of old Hollywood, Joanne Gair applies her extraordinary paintbrush to one of the world's most extraordinary bodies

SWIMSUIT BY SUSAN HOLMES SWIMWEAR ($245)
SHOES BY FREDERICK'S OF HOLLYWOOD
ALL BODYPAINTING AND MAKEUP BY JOANNE GAIR USING REEL CREATIONS INC.
HAIR BY ORIBE AND ROQUE FOR ORIBESALON.COM
MANICURE BY MICHINA KOIDE FOR WARREN TRICOMI/ESSIE
LOCATION: INDUSTRIA SUPERSTUDIO

HEIDI KLUM

BEACH BUNNY SWIMWEAR ($189)

CAN YOU BLAME US? For our ode to the Great American Pinup we called on one of Germany's most famous exports, Heidi Klum. In December she joined forces with Joanne Gair for a four-day shoot in New York's City's meatpacking district that produced these photos. "If it's something interesting and unusual, I'm usually up for it," says Klum, who posed just three months after giving birth (credit her genes, her will and her trainer) to her second child. Since Klum exploded onto the cover of the Swimsuit Issue in 1998, the 32-year-old has morphed from supermodel to supermogul. She has her own line of jewelry (the Heidi Klum Collection by Mouawad) and a shoe line with Birkenstock, and she is the host and executive producer of Bravo's *Project Runway*. She also endorses numerous products (perfume, candy, clothing) in Germany and hosts the television show that is Germany's version of *Top Model*. "I really feel like I've made it," says Klum, who married the singer Seal last May. "I mean in a personal way—I have a beautiful husband and a family. That's the most important thing. The business stuff is great, but I would give it all up for them." Words to pin up, for sure. *—Richard Deitsch*

Heidi Klum

TOP BY CYNTHIA ROSE NY ($875)
BOTTOM BY CYNTHIA ROSE NY ($350)

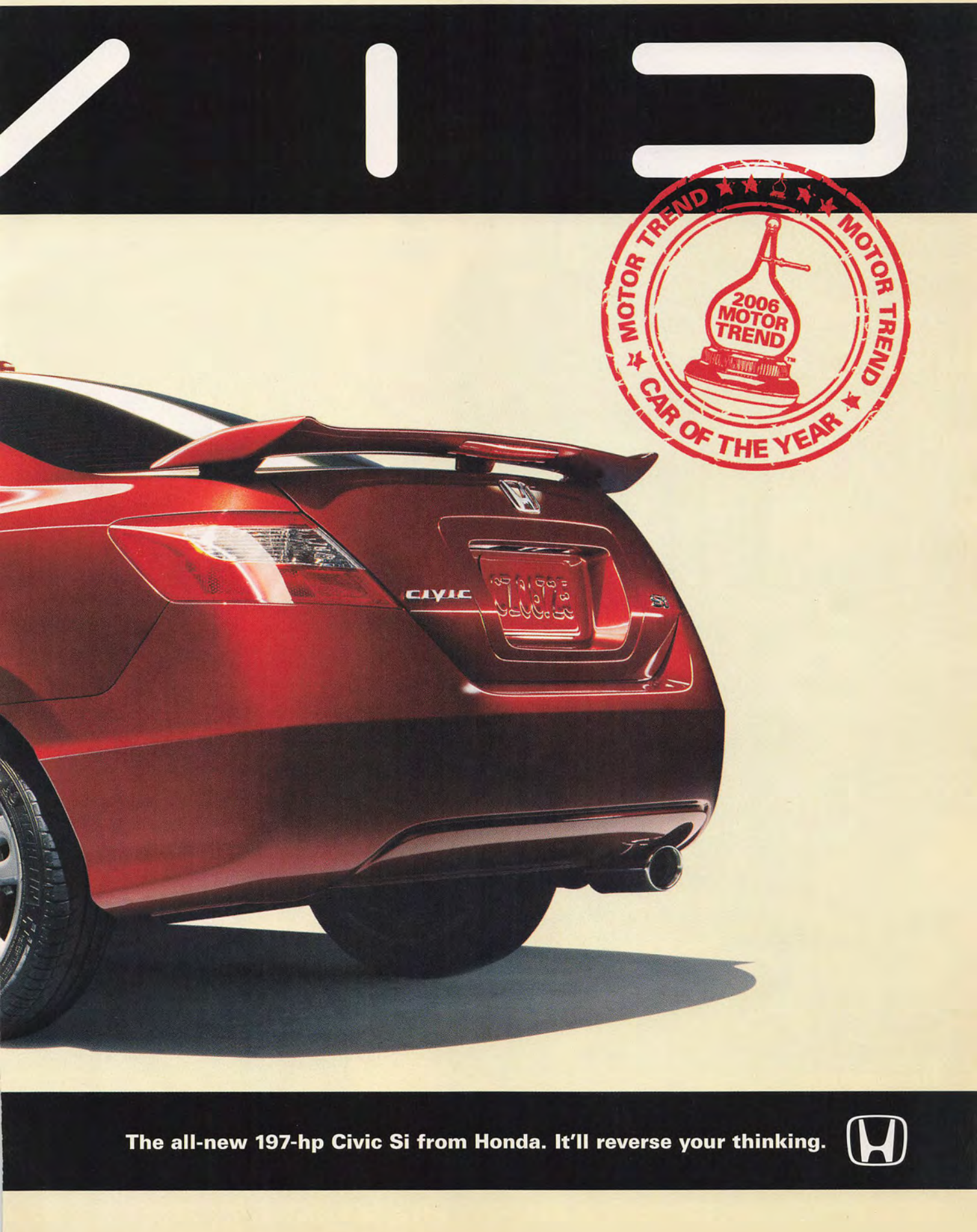
HEIDI KLUM
SWIMSUIT BY SUNSETS ($114)
SHOES BY FREDERICK'S OF HOLLYWOOD

CIVIC

FAST TIMES.

Si

honda.com 1-800-33-Honda Civic Si shown with available Honda Satellite-Linked Navigation System™ ©2005 American Honda Motor Co., Inc.



The all-new 197-hp Civic Si from Honda. It'll reverse your thinking.

ALINE NAKASHIMA

SWIMSUIT BY RADIO FIJI SWIM ($82)

HAIR BY LOUIS ANGELO
FOR KERASTASE PARIS@JUDY CASEY
MAKEUP BY GLENN MARZIALI

ACCOMMODATIONS BY TE TIARE BEACH, AN OUTRIGGER RESORT, HUAHINE

AIR TRAVEL PROVIDED BY AIR TAHITI NUI

Tahiti

Photographs by
STEWART
SHINING

MALLORY SNYDER

SWIMSUIT BY BECCA BY REBECCA V. ($120)

NECKLACES BY (FROM TOP) ME & RO ($465), ALEX WOO ($698), ME & RO ($140)
RINGS BY ME & RO ($155, $170)

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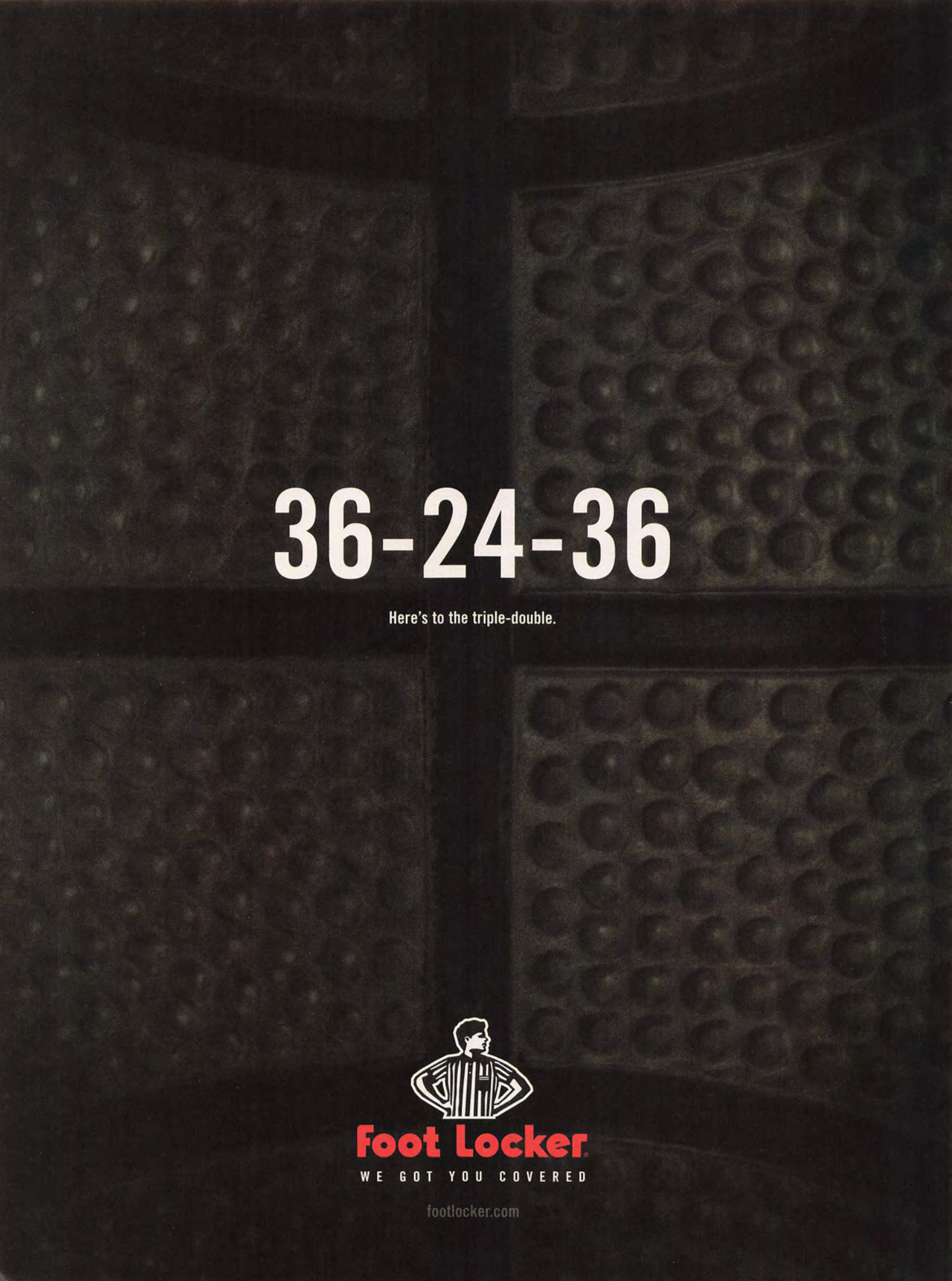
IN STORES FEB. 28

ANA BEATRIZ BARROS

SWIMSUIT BY POMPEI BEACH ($160)


36-24-36
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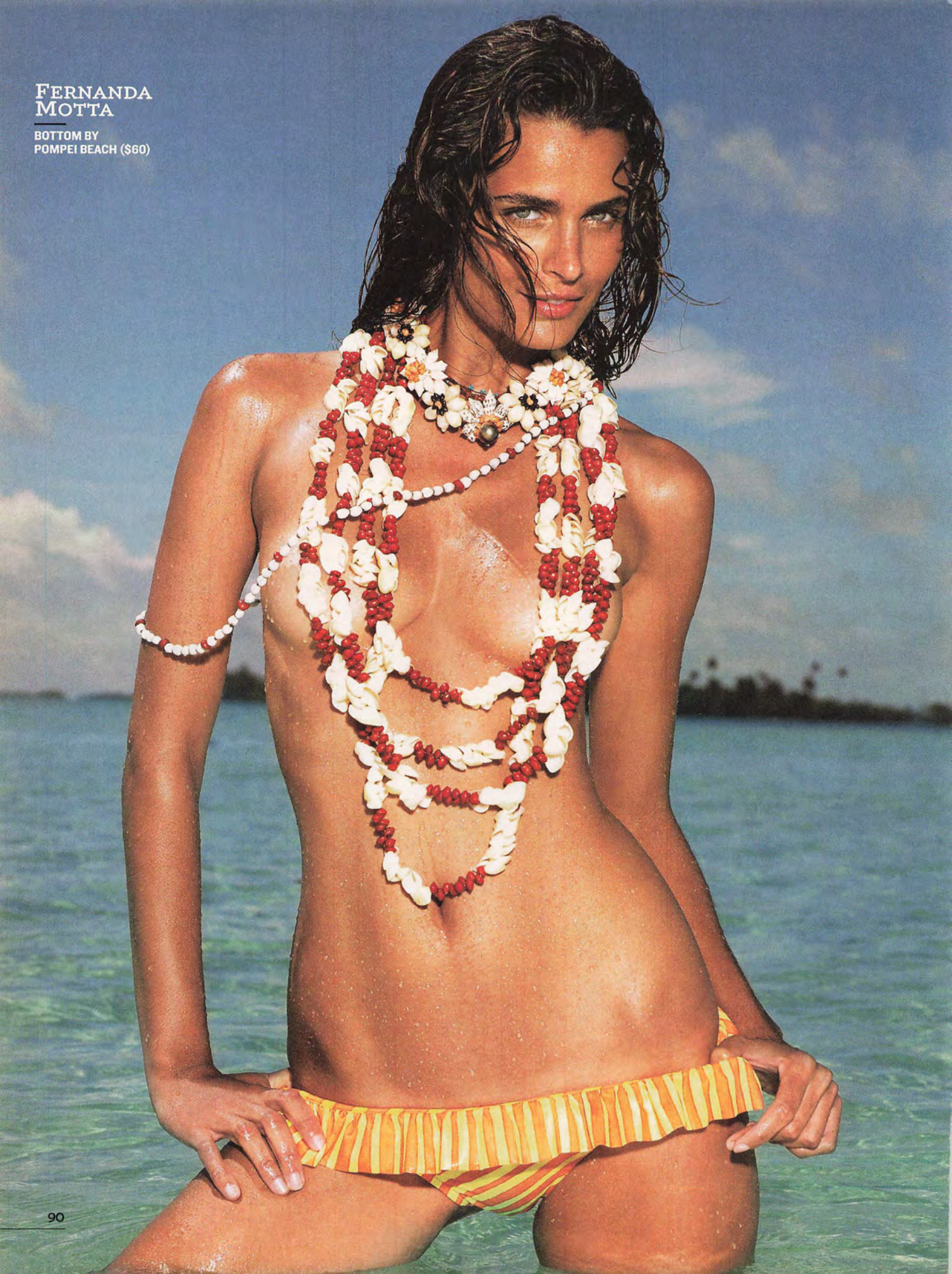
ANA BEATRIZ
BARROS



Fernanda Motta

BOTTOM BY POMPEI BEACH ($60)

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Ana Beatriz Barros

TOP BY CYNTHIA ROSE NY ($595)
PEARLS BY TAHIA COLLINS ($2,550)
PEARL CHOKER BY TAHIA COLLINS ($550)

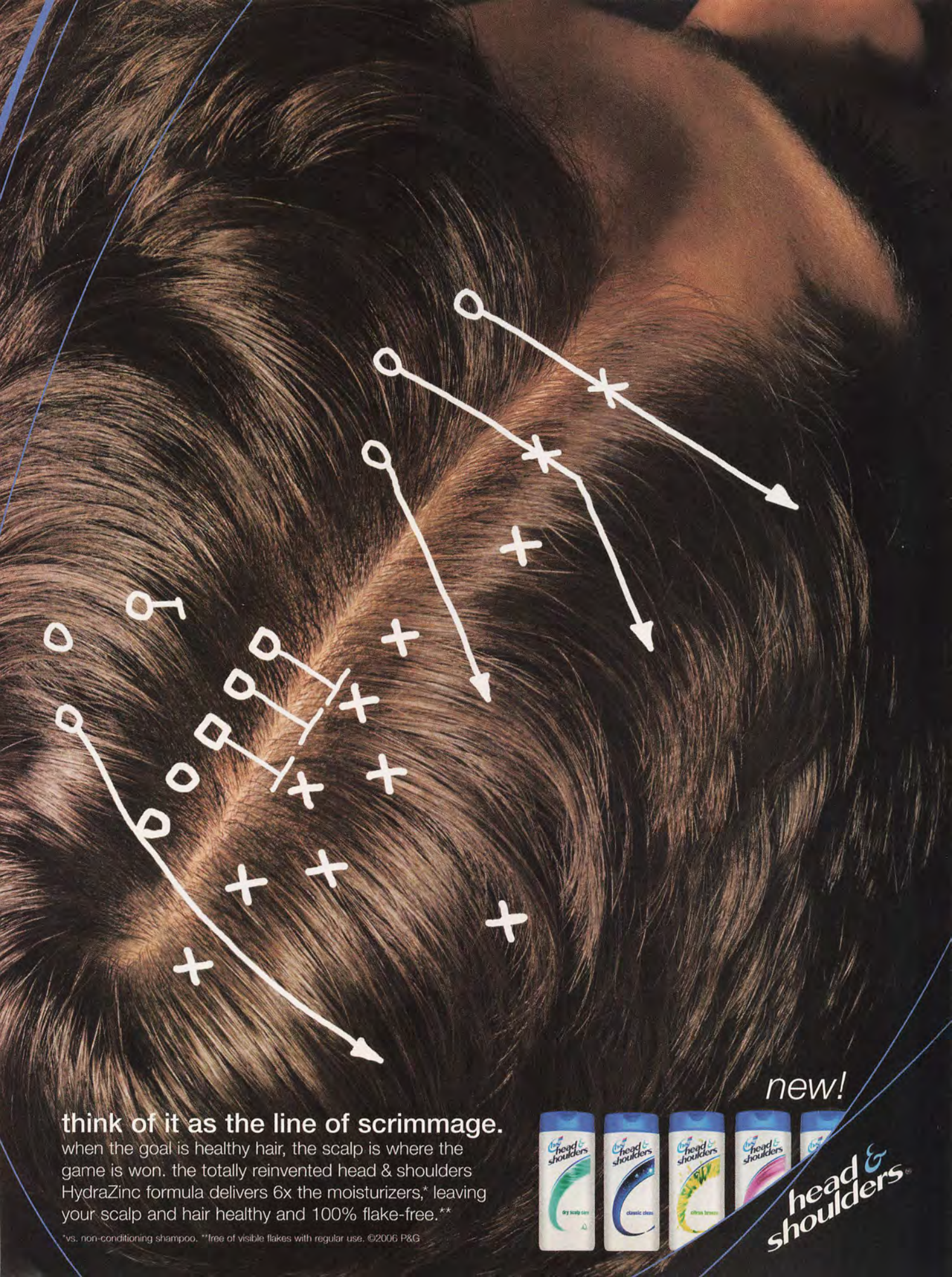
MALLORY SNYDER

BOTTOM BY COSABELLA MARE ($57)

RINGS BY ME & RO ($155, $170)

FERNANDA MOTTA

SWIMSUIT BY ASHLEY PAIGE ($640)



think of it as the line of scrimmage.

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ALINE NAKASHIMA

SWIMSUIT BY
C-GIRL FOR CARLASCLOSET.COM ($90)

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Fernanda Motta

SWIMSUIT BY MISS NAORY ($217)
HAT BY LOLA (SPECIAL ORDER)

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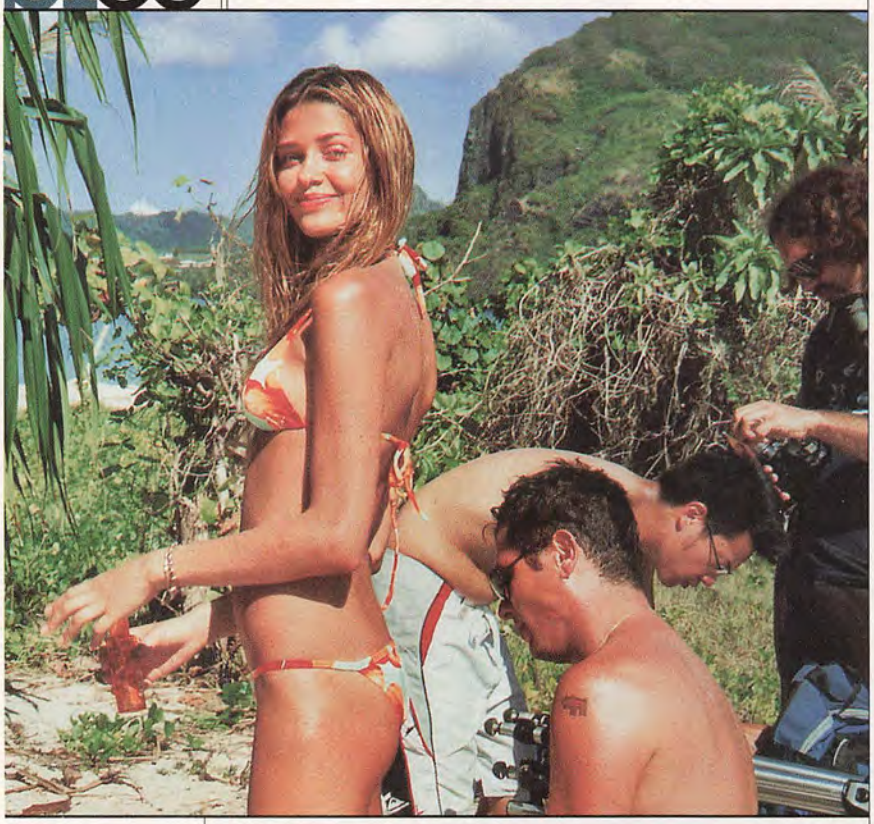


TE TIARE BEACH RESORT

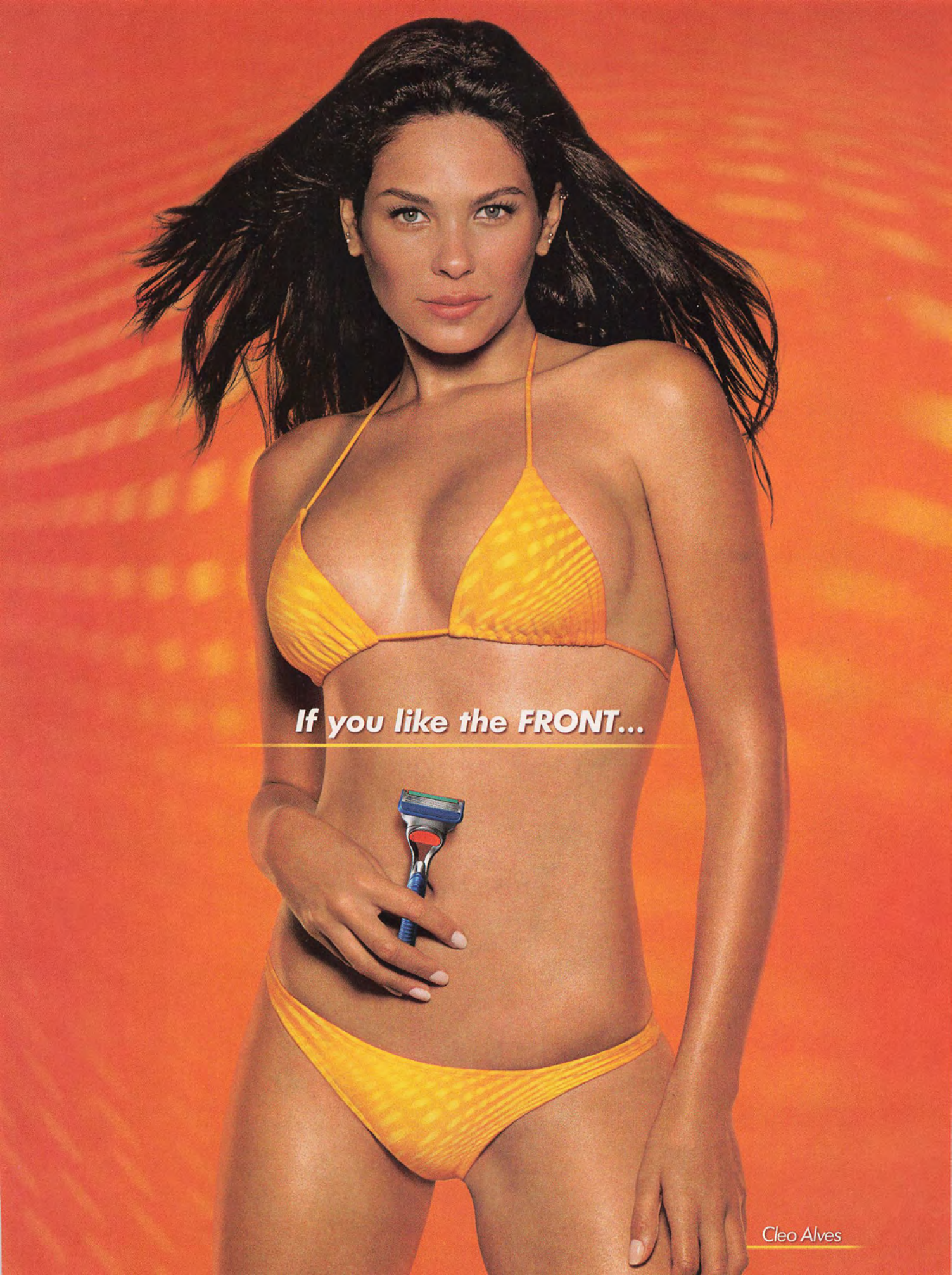
Tahiti

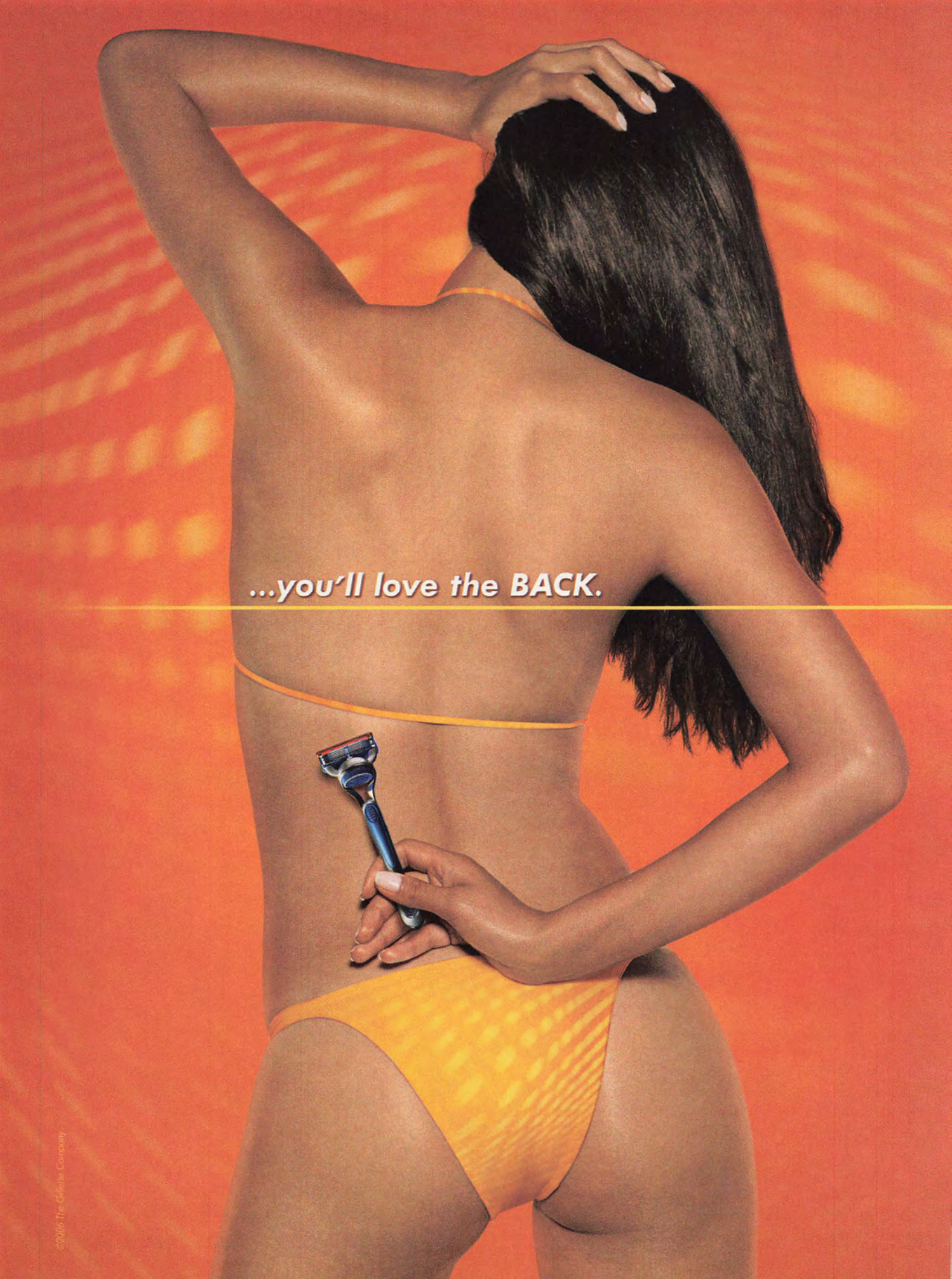
Nui Horizons

Dude, watch where you're going. This was my thought upon learning the provenance of the enormous rock jutting up from Huahine Iti (Little Huahine). According to legend, Hiro, the god of thieves, lost control of his canoe, cleaving the island into two, Huahine Nui (Big Huahine) and Iti. Hiro survived the crash but left behind his manhood—that impressive obelisk. Seems like an awfully steep price to pay, I thought, while paddling past it one afternoon. But then, these islands have long presented difficulties to outsiders. Dating back to Captain Cook, who dropped anchor here in 1769, foreigners have found the islanders to be "friendly and welcoming," according to local historian Paul Atallah, "but in a proud, independent, *stubborn* way." European explorers found these natives to be far more spirited—and more willing to battle—than those on neighboring islands. Things are easier now. At the enchanting Te Tiare Beach Resort, the staff members stubbornly ensure your happiness. Still, difficult decisions must be made: What to do today? Kayak? Snorkel? Play beach volleyball? On my third day there I took Atallah's tour, which starts at an ancient temple, "a place," he said, "where humans and gods could interact." And I thought, *Sort of like having dinner with swimsuit models every night.* —*Austin Murphy*

■ **Hairstylist Louis Angelo shows his versatility by de-sanding Ana Beatriz Barros (left) and touching up the coiffure of Fernanda Motta. Mallory Snyder got wet for a video shoot and then got something wet at the bar with Motta.**

DIANE SMITH (5)


If you like the FRONT...
Cleo Alves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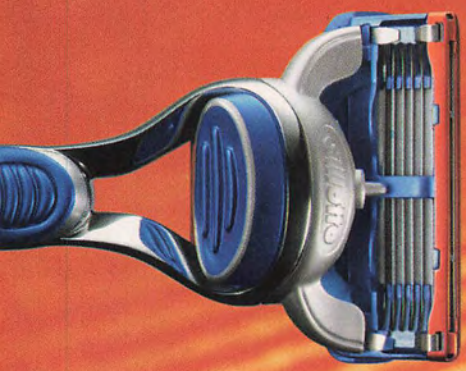

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Molly Sims does Vegas

She mothballed her swimsuits a few years ago and now has a hit show, *Las Vegas*. But she's still a good bet any time she puts on a bikini

PHOTOGRAPHS BY
RAPHAEL MAZZUCCO

SWIMSUIT BY INCA ($185)
NECKLACES BY ALEX WOO ($118, $98)
RING BY SWAROVSKI ($235)

HAIR BY ENZO ANGILERI FOR CLOUTIER/MATRIX
MAKEUP BY MONIKA BLUNDER
FOR CELESTINEAGENCY.COM

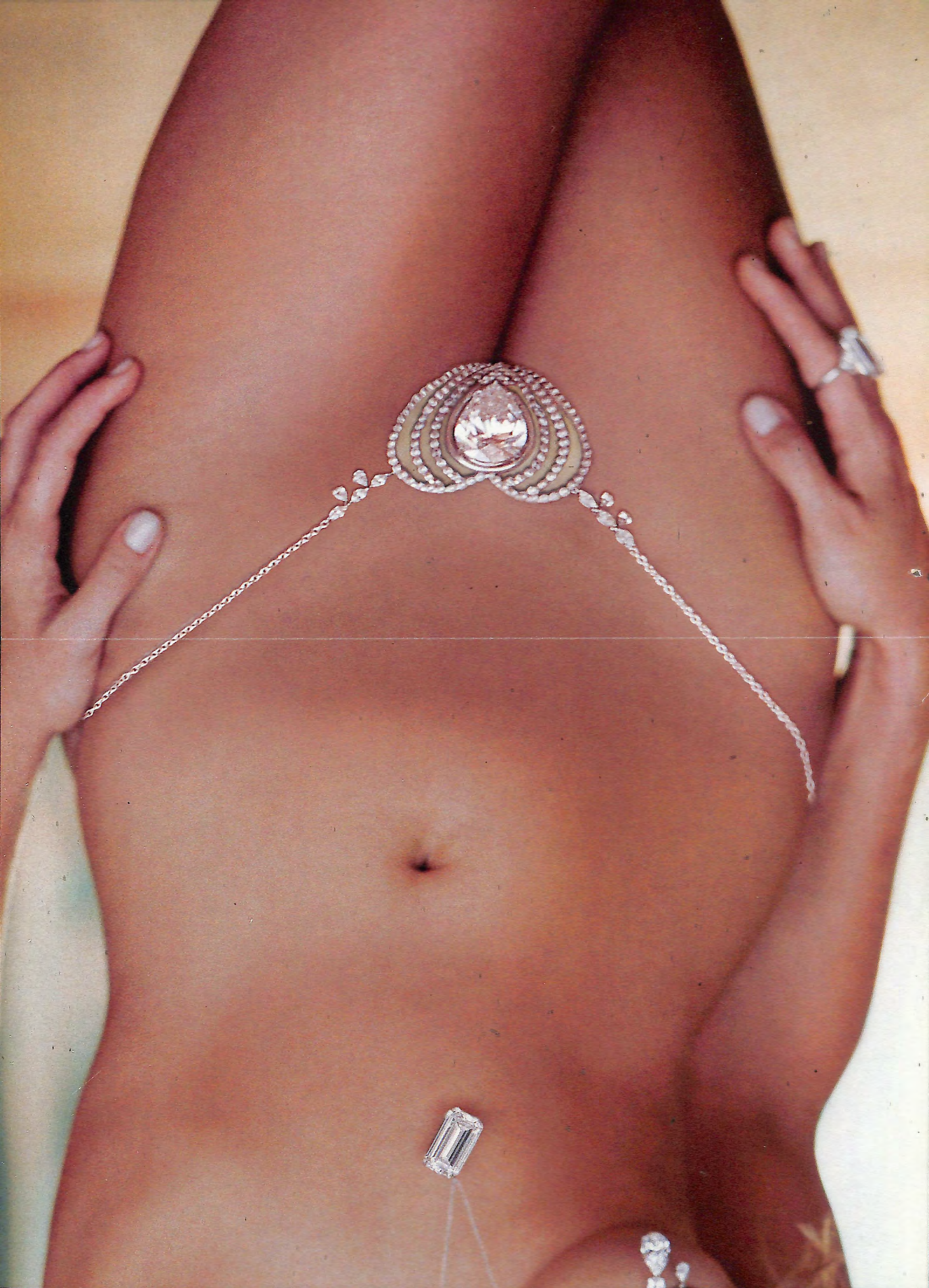
LOCATION AND ACCOMMODATIONS BY
WYNN LAS VEGAS RESORT & COUNTRY CLUB

Molly Sims

TOP BY CYNTHIA ROSE NY ($1,195)
BOTTOM BY SUSAN HOLMES SWIMWEAR ($109)
DIAMOND PENDANTS BY RENEE LEWIS (TOP: $20,000; BOTTOM: $40,000)

Molly Sims

SWIMSUIT BY KARLA COLLETTO ($205)
NECKLACES BY ALEX WOO ($118, $98)
EARRINGS BY KENNETH JAY LANE ($150)



THE $30 MILLION BIKINI

Molly Sims

DIAMOND BIKINI DESIGNED BY SUSAN ROSEN WITH STEINMETZ DIAMONDS

RING BY STEINMETZ DIAMONDS ($4 MILLION)
DIAMOND PENDANT DESIGNED BY SUSAN ROSEN WITH STEINMETZ DIAMONDS ($3.5 MILLION)

HAIR BY ENZO ANGILERI FOR CLOUTIER/MATRIX
MAKEUP BY MONIKA BLUNDER FOR CELESTINEAGENCY.COM

WATER BED.

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Photographs by
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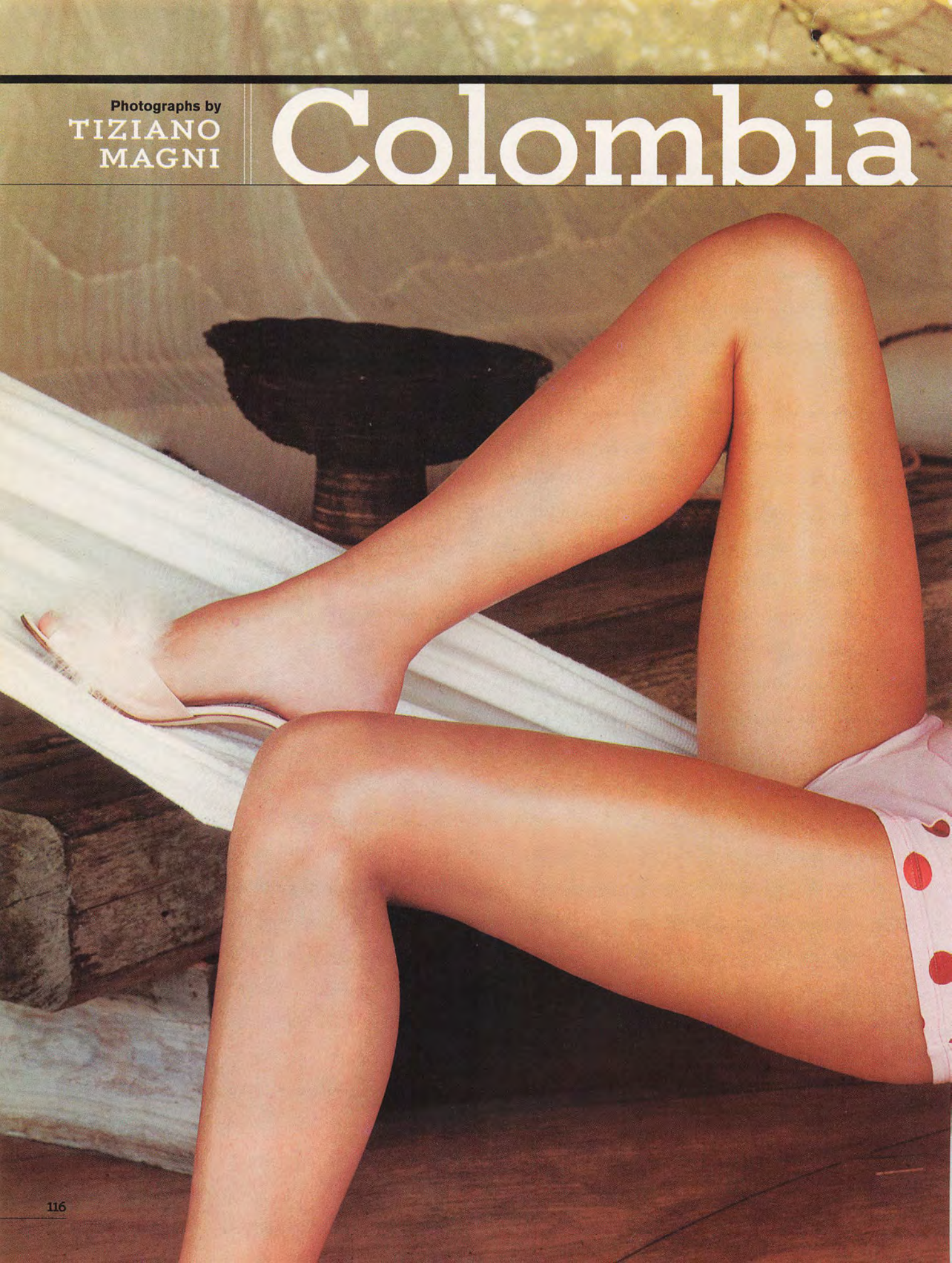
Colombia



BROOKLYN DECKER

BOTTOM BY BACIRUBATI MARE ($125)

SHOES BY MANOLO BLAHNIK ($525)
NECKLACE BY HINU JEWELRY ($175)

HAIR BY JOHN RUGGIERO FOR BUMBLE+BUMBLE
MAKEUP BY KATARINA HAKANSSON FOR HAKANSSONSKIN.COM

ACCOMMODATIONS BY HOTEL SAN PEDRO DE MAJAGUA

PANIA ROSE

SHIRT & BOTTOM BY ELIZABETH HURLEY BEACH ($520, $86)

NECKLACES (TOP) LIZZIE SCHECK JEWELRY ($2,200), (BOTTOM) BY CHANEL

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NECKLACE BY HINU JEWELRY ($75)

PANIA ROSE

SWIMSUIT BY SAUVAGE SWIMWEAR
BY ELIZABETH SOUTHWOOD ($128)
NECKLACE BY LINKS OF LONDON ($695)

BROOKLYN DECKER

SWIMSUIT BY CYN & LUCA ($100)

NECKLACES (TOP) BY HINU JEWELRY ($175), (BOTTOM) BY SWAROVSKI ($80)

(Gulp!)
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nutrients make for
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got milk?
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SWIMSUIT BY VICKY MOREINIS SWIMWEAR ($110)

NECKLACES (TOP) BY AGATHA PARIS ($10), (BOTTOM) BY LIZZIE SCHECK JEWELRY ($595)

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Pania Rose

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NECKLACE BY LINKS OF LONDON ($595)

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✓ surf Costa Rica

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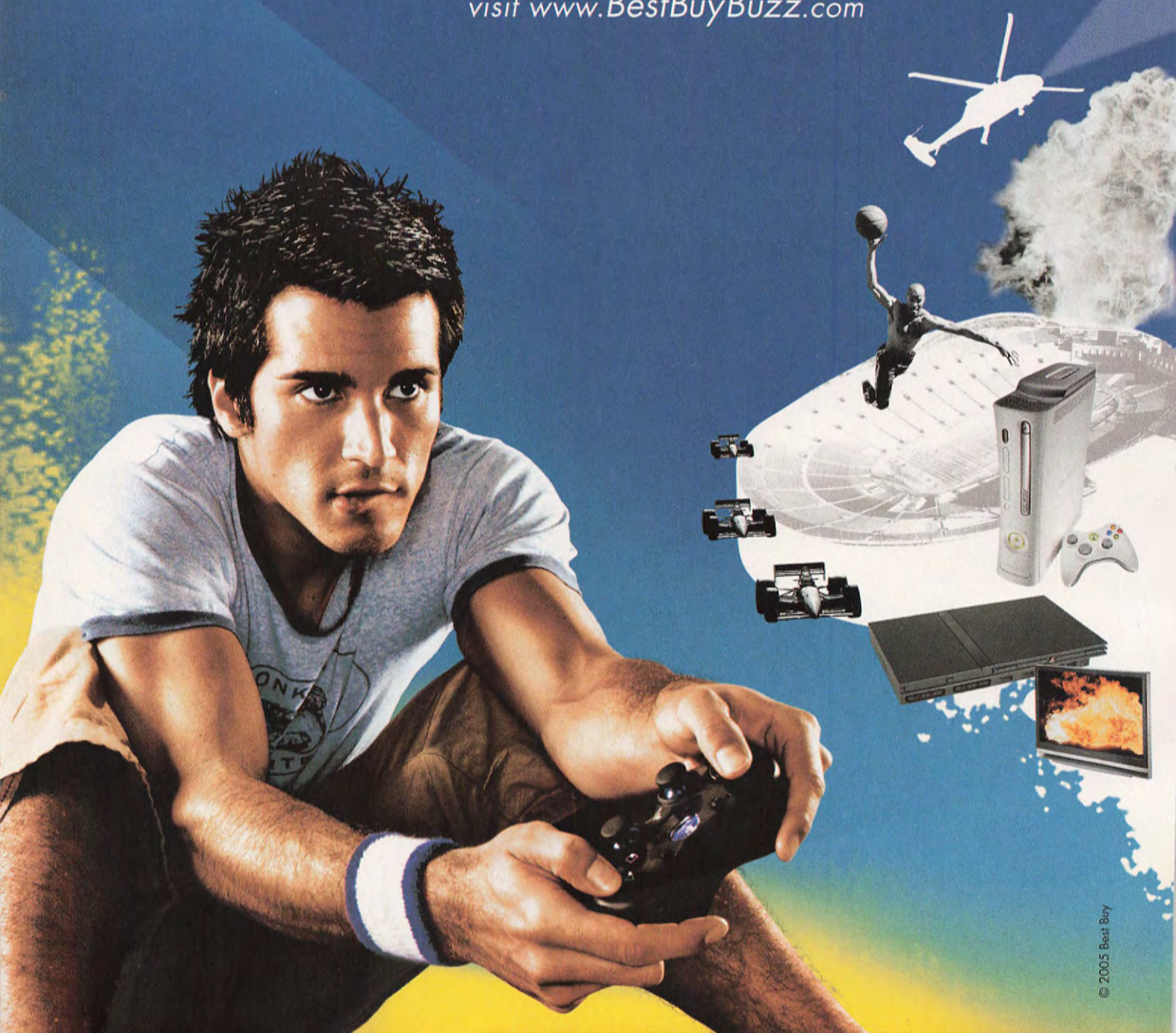

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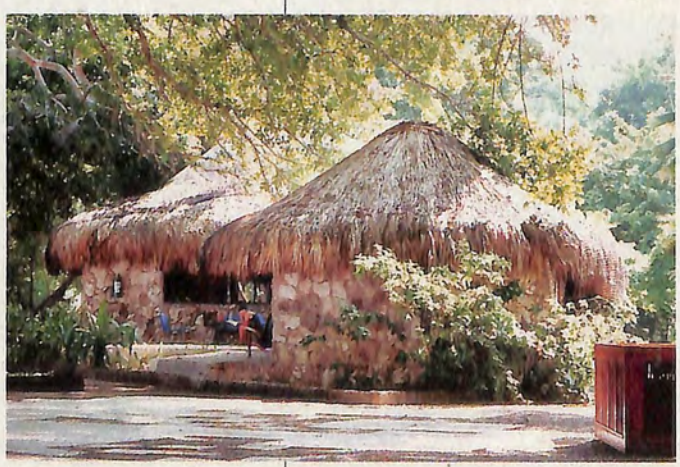
HOTEL SAN PEDRO DE MAJAGUA

Colombia

Magical Realism

THE ISLAND OF San Pedro de Majagua is part of the surreal Colombia of ghosts, pirates and magic that inspires Gabriel García Márquez. It was settled in 1955 by Pierre Daguet, a would-be Gauguin who built a house and a studio in which he painted a series of underwater nudes. The island had a bohemian atmosphere then; his sister and mother prepared feasts while his friends, *El Grupo de los 15*, staged plays and other amusements that led to lots of wine-fueled carousing. (Daguet dumped his empties—30 years' worth—in a shallow cove off the main dock.) The Hotel San Pedro de Majagua has spartan rooms (mosquito nets and fans, no a.c.), a splendid seafood restaurant and two private beaches on which you can spy sculpted bodies in swimwear that sometimes seems barely to exist. A typical day consists of rising late, ambling to the beach for a dip, having a leisurely breakfast and lunch followed by scuba diving (perhaps to count Daguet's empties). All of which whets your appetite for a sumptuous dinner and a staggering sunset. In the moonlight you can see magnificent patterns in the lagoon created by phosphorescent plankton. Plunge in, and you can watch this fireworks display underwater. —*Franz Lidz*

■ **Sure, the bikinis are important, but it's really all about the hair as John Ruggiero addresses Oluchi Onweagba's tresses on deck, then gives Brooklyn Decker's 'do a do-over, while Katarina Hakansson makes cosmetic changes.**



DIANE SMITH (4)

LEEANN TWEEDEN - 2006 BUDWEISER SWIMSUIT MODEL

YOU CAN TWIST ANYTHING INTO A SWIMSUIT.

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There's one universal truth in this magazine...

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KING OF BEERS

Bombshell

RACHEL HUNTER

SWIMSUIT BY ONDADEMAR ($132)

ELSA BENITEZ

SWIMSUIT BY CUSP ($186)

CAROLYN MURPHY

SWIMSUIT BY OPERA SWIMWEAR BY SUELI COSTA ($350)

VERONICA VAREKOVA

SWIMSUIT BY CALVIN KLEIN ($92)

Beach

Photographs by
RAPHAEL MAZZUCCO

HAIR BY PETER BUTLER FOR ARTISTSBYTIMOTHYPRIANO.COM
MAKEUP BY VICKY STECKEL @ ART DEPARTMENT USING DIOR
ACCOMMODATIONS BY CORAL SANDS/HARBOUR ISLAND

When some of SI's most popular cover models came together in the Bahamas, it was eight women, one beach and the ultimate swimsuit shoot

ELLE MACPHERSON
SWIMSUIT BY ASHA COUTURE ($125)

REBECCA ROMIJN
SWIMSUIT BY LA BLANCA ($102)

YAMILA DIAZ-RAHI
SWIMSUIT BY SUSAN HOLMES SWIMWEAR ($118)

DANIELA PESTOVA
SWIMSUIT BY ASHA COUTURE ($130)

(L-R)

ELSA BENITEZ: SWIMSUIT BY CHRISTINA LIQUORI SWIM ($100)

VERONICA VAREKOVA: SWIMSUIT BY ANK BY MIRLA SABINO ($115)

ELLE MACPHERSON: SWIMSUIT BY DOLCE & GABBANA ($290)

REBECCA ROMIJN: SWIMSUIT BY CHIO DI STEFANIA D ($276)

RACHEL HUNTER: SWIMSUIT BY BCBG MAX AZRIA SWIM ($136)

DANIELA PESTOVA: SWIMSUIT BY CALVIN KLEIN SWIMWEAR ($108)

YAMILA DIAZ-RAHI: SWIMSUIT BY DOLCE & GABBANA ($290)

CAROLYN MURPHY: SWIMSUIT BY VANDA CATUCCI ($206)

PREVIOUS SPREAD

(CENTER ROW, L-R)

ELLE MACPHERSON
SWIMSUIT BY VITAMIN A
BY AMAHLIA STEVENS ($142);

ELSA BENITEZ, VERONICA VAREKOVA, CAROLYN MURPHY SHIRTS BY AGUA 7, ELIZABETH HURLEY BEACH ($288), CYNTHIA ROSE NY ($990);

DANIELA PESTOVA
SWIMSUIT BY VIX SWIMWEAR ($120)

ELLE
MACPHERSON

SWIMSUIT BY
POMPEI BEACH ($160)

ELLE MACPHERSON

SWIMSUIT BY ROSA CHA BY AMIR SLAMA ($280)
GOLD PENDANT BY MANON VON GERKAN ($3,720)

DAVIDOFF
Cool Water
FEATURING LEGENDARY SURFER
LAIRD HAMILTON
FAMOUS BARR/L.S. AYRES/THE JONES STORE HECHT'S/STRAWBRIDGE'S ROBINSONS-MAY/MEIER FRANK FILENE'S/KAUFMANN'S LORD & TAYLOR MARSHALL FIELD'S FOLEY'S
THE POWER OF COOL
DAVIDOFF
Cool Water
EAU DE
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MACPHERSON

SWIMSUIT BY
SUSAN HOLMES SWIMWEAR ($118)

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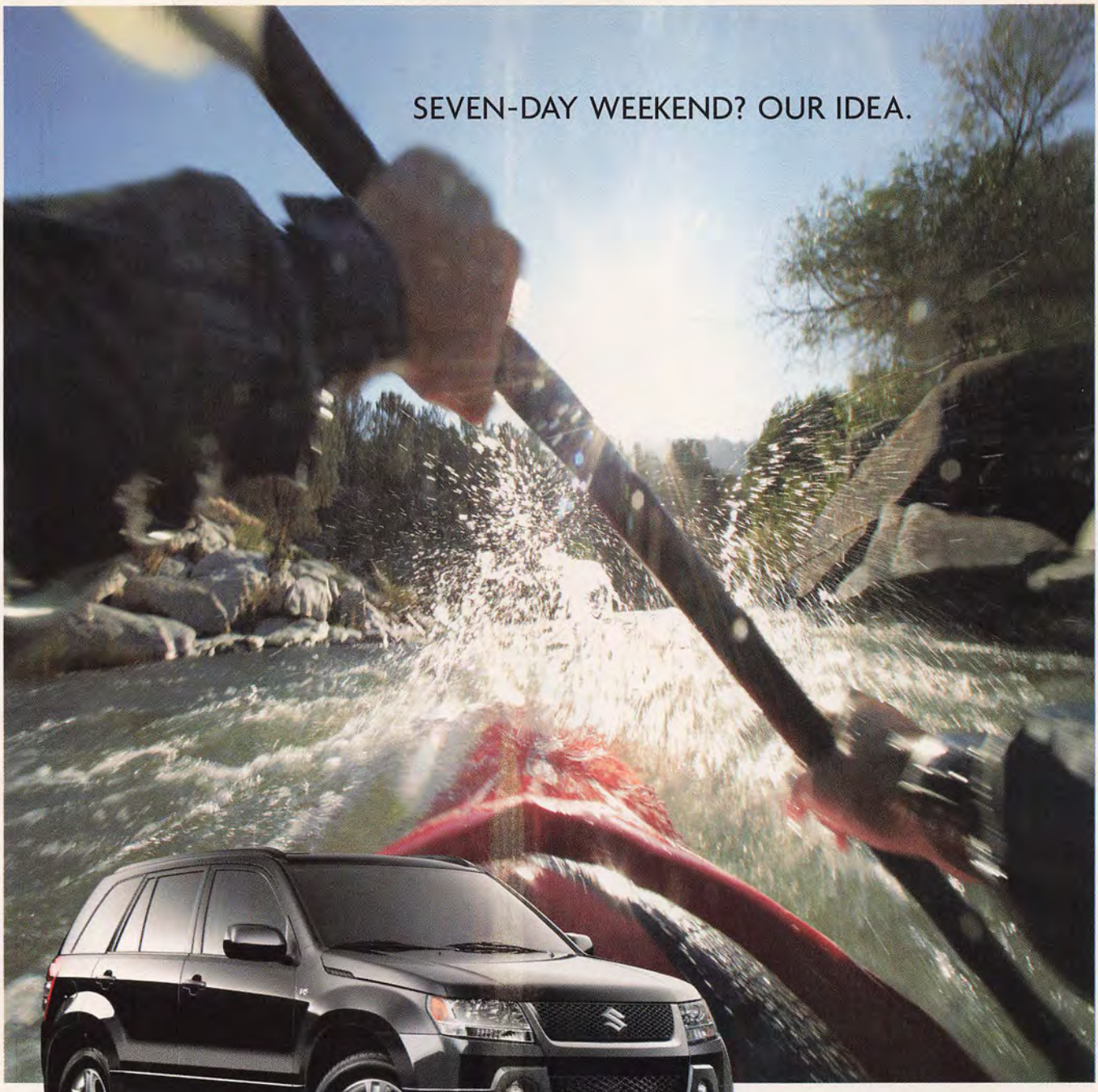

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Rebecca Romijn

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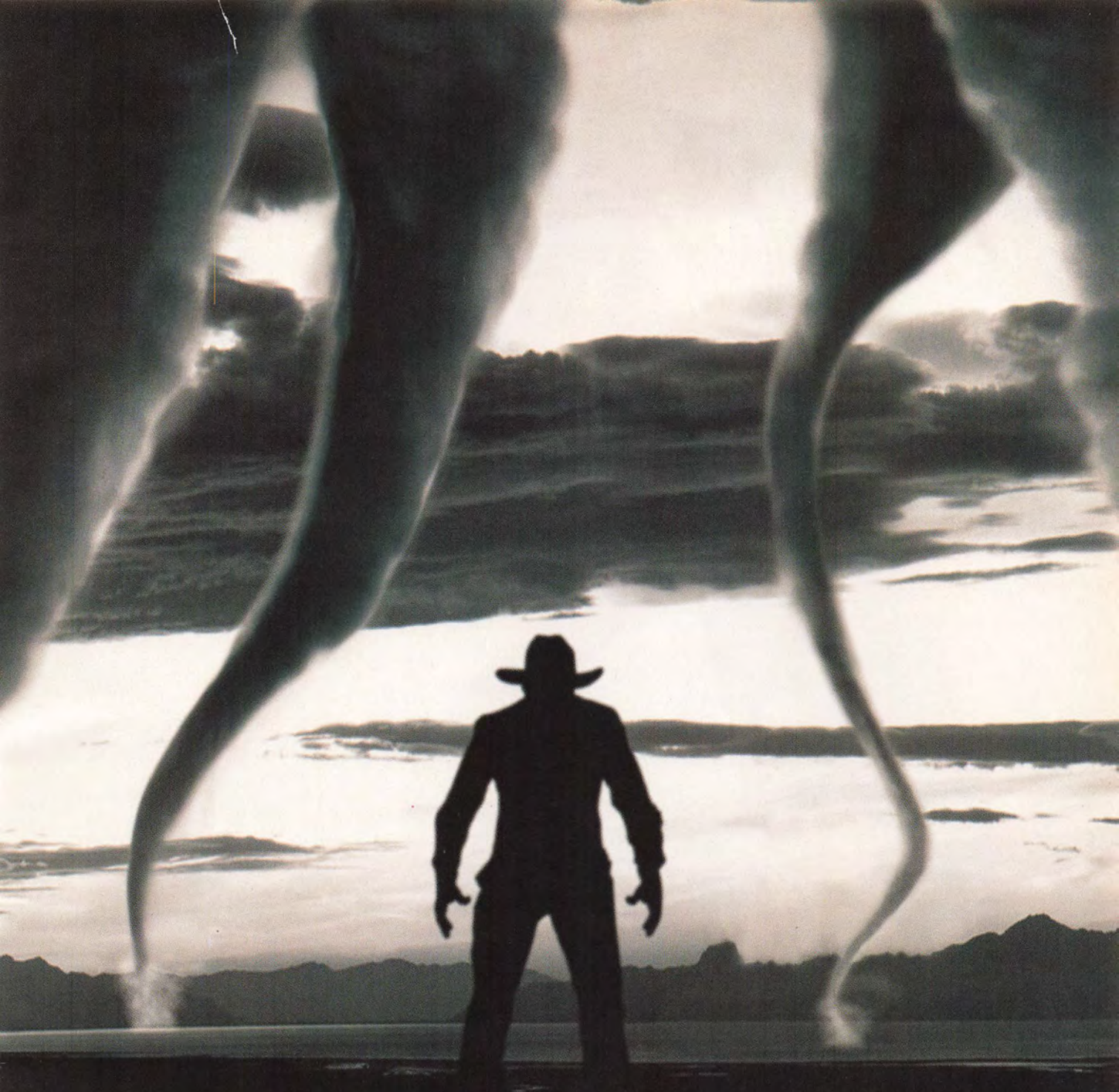

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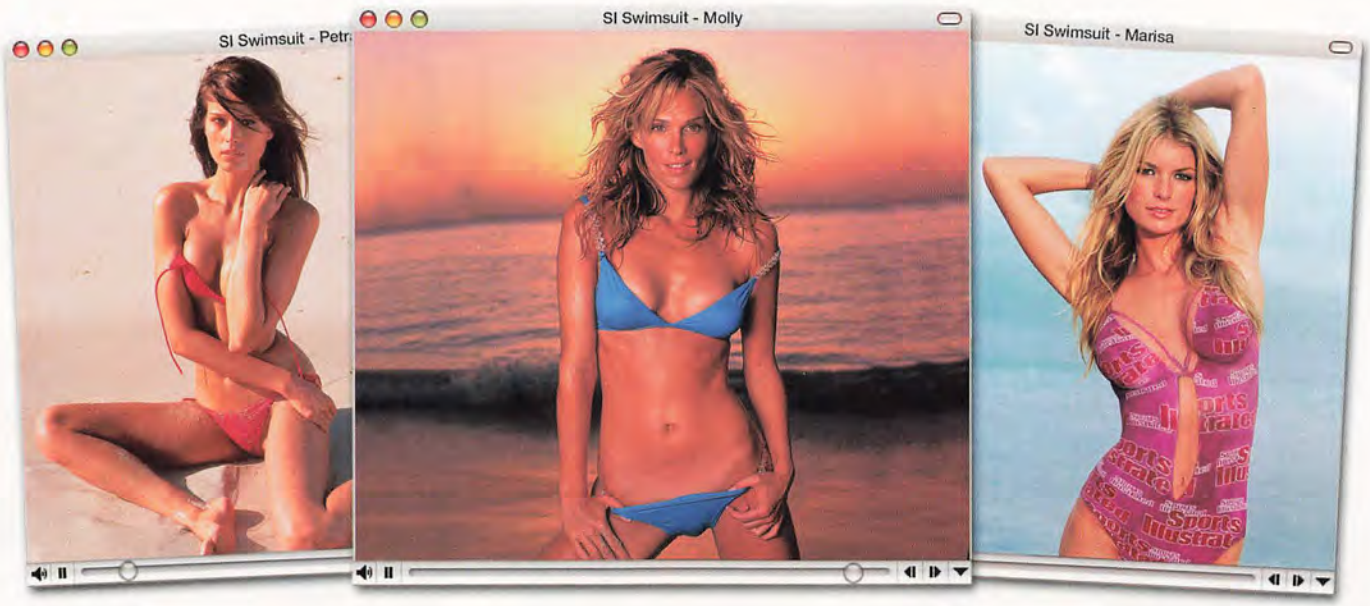

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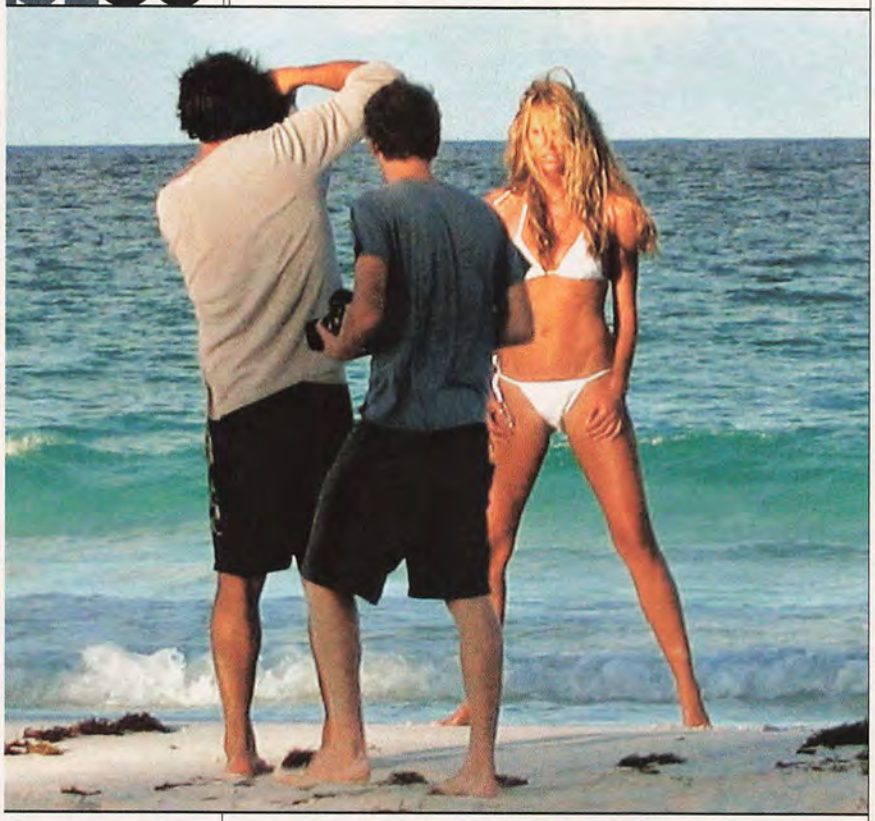

■ The only thing as amazing as getting eight swimsuit models together was convincing them to share one makeup artist (Vicky Steckel) and one hair stylist (Peter Butler)—which may be why no one had time to hang out at the pool.

CORAL SANDS

Bahamas

Nothing Doing

FACED WITH A week in which my only task was to explore the many pleasures and treasures of Harbour Island, I asked a knowledgeable local, Elle Macpherson, to tell me the one thing I absolutely *had* to do before I left. "Nothing," she said. By that she meant, Just enjoy the cool pink sands and gentle turquoise surf and—if I could squeeze it into my schedule—maybe drink lots of white wine. Her sage advice was easy to follow while staying at the Coral Sands, which is on a nearly empty three-mile stretch of beach.

By shuffling between the resort's dining room, beach bar, library and pool table, it was possible for me to meet most of my needs without putting many steps on the pedometer. If I'd been seized by wanderlust, I could have taken a golf cart down to the harbor, where I would've found a table with an inspiring view of the water and ordered a conch salad. Then I probably would have spent a pleasant half hour watching as a man pulled a conch shell from the ocean, gave it three precise taps with a hammer to dislodge the meat and then passed it to a knife-wielding woman, who would slice and dice it in a blur of motion and present me with a very fresh entrée. Does any of that count as doing something?

—Bill Syken

DIANE SMITH (4)

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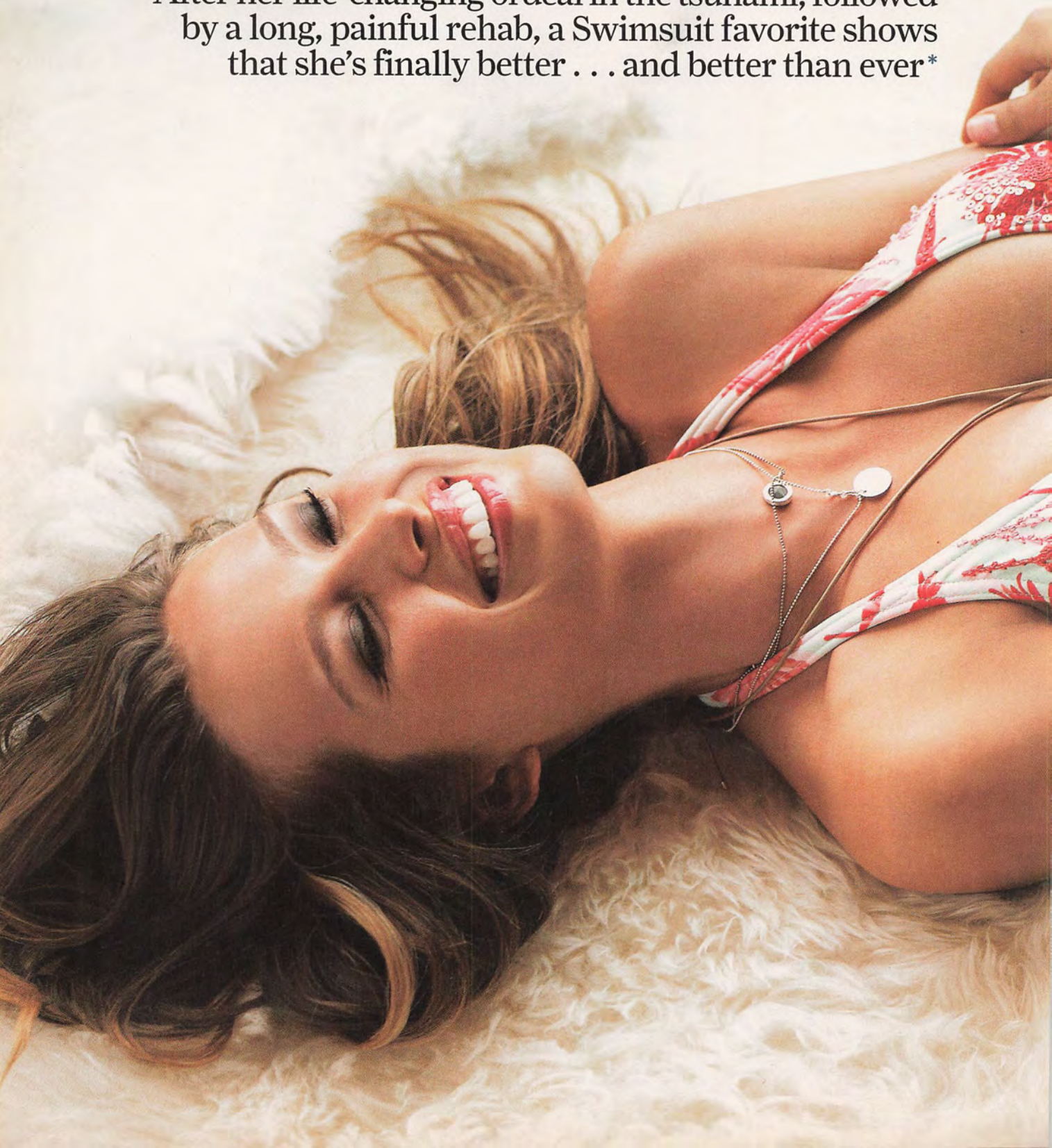

Photographs by
STEWART SHINING

PETRA NEMCOVA

SWIMSUIT BY SOFIA BY VIX ($104)

NECKLACES BY (TOP) JANE DIAZ ($100), (MIDDLE) HINU JEWELRY ($75), (BOTTOM) SWAROVSKI ($60)
RINGS BY (LEFT HAND) JANE DIAZ ($130), ME & RO ($135)

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PETRA NEMCOVA

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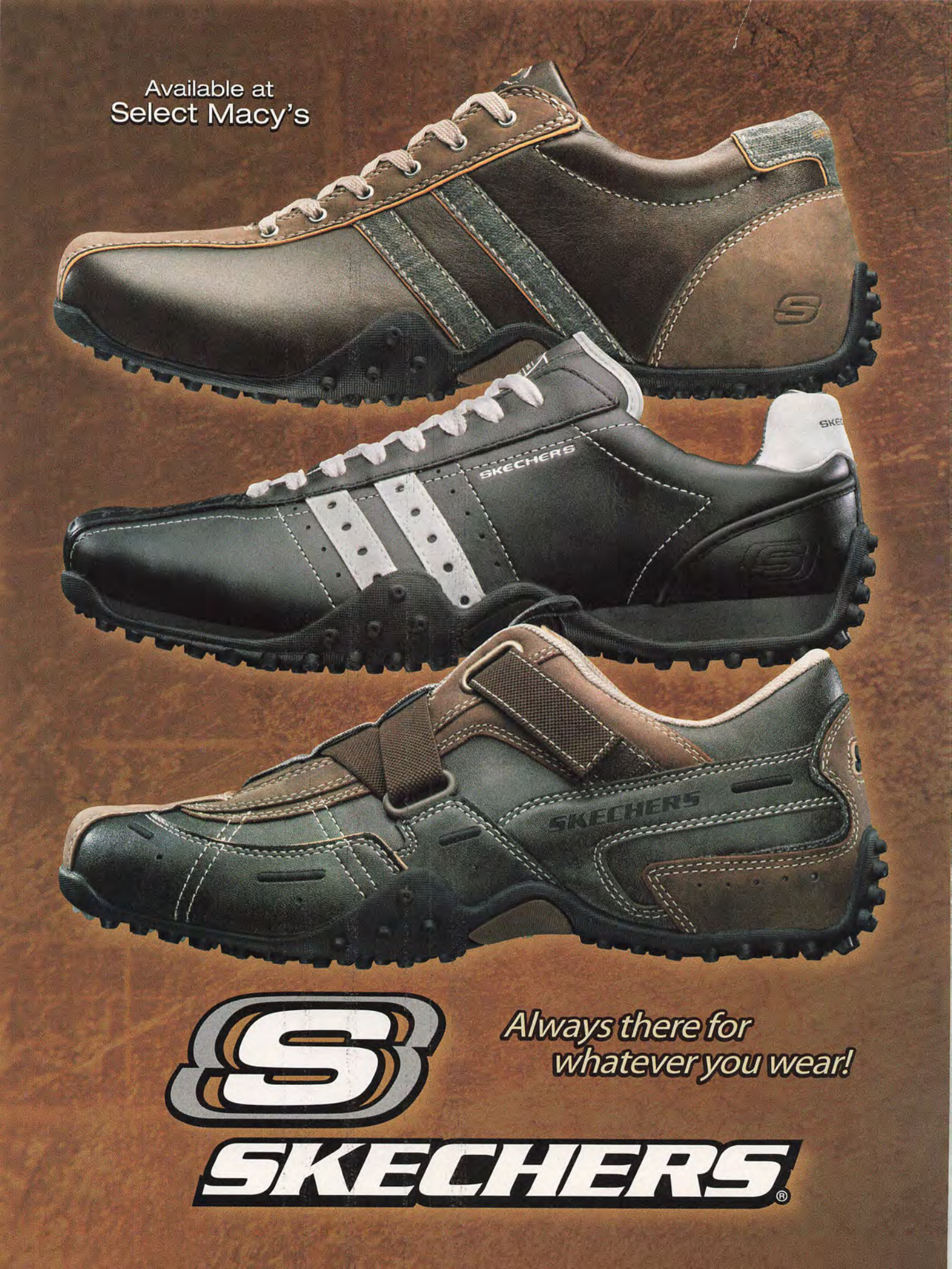
NECKLACES BY (TOP) JANE DIAZ ($100), (MIDDLE) HINU JEWELRY ($75), (BOTTOM) SWAROVSKI ($60)
RINGS BY (RIGHT HAND) JANE DIAZ ($300, $60); (LEFT HAND) JANE DIAZ ($130), ME & RO ($135)

PETRA NEMCOVA

SWIMSUIT BY VIX SWIMWEAR ($148)

NECKLACES BY (TOP) JANE DIAZ ($100), (BOTTOM) HINU JEWELRY($75)
RINGS BY (LEFT HAND) JANE DIAZ ($100), ME & RO ($130)
SHOES BY MANOLO BLAHNIK ($495)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PETRA NEMCOVA

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NECKLACES (FROM TOP) BY JANE DIAZ ($130), HINU JEWELRY ($75), JANE DIAZ ($130)

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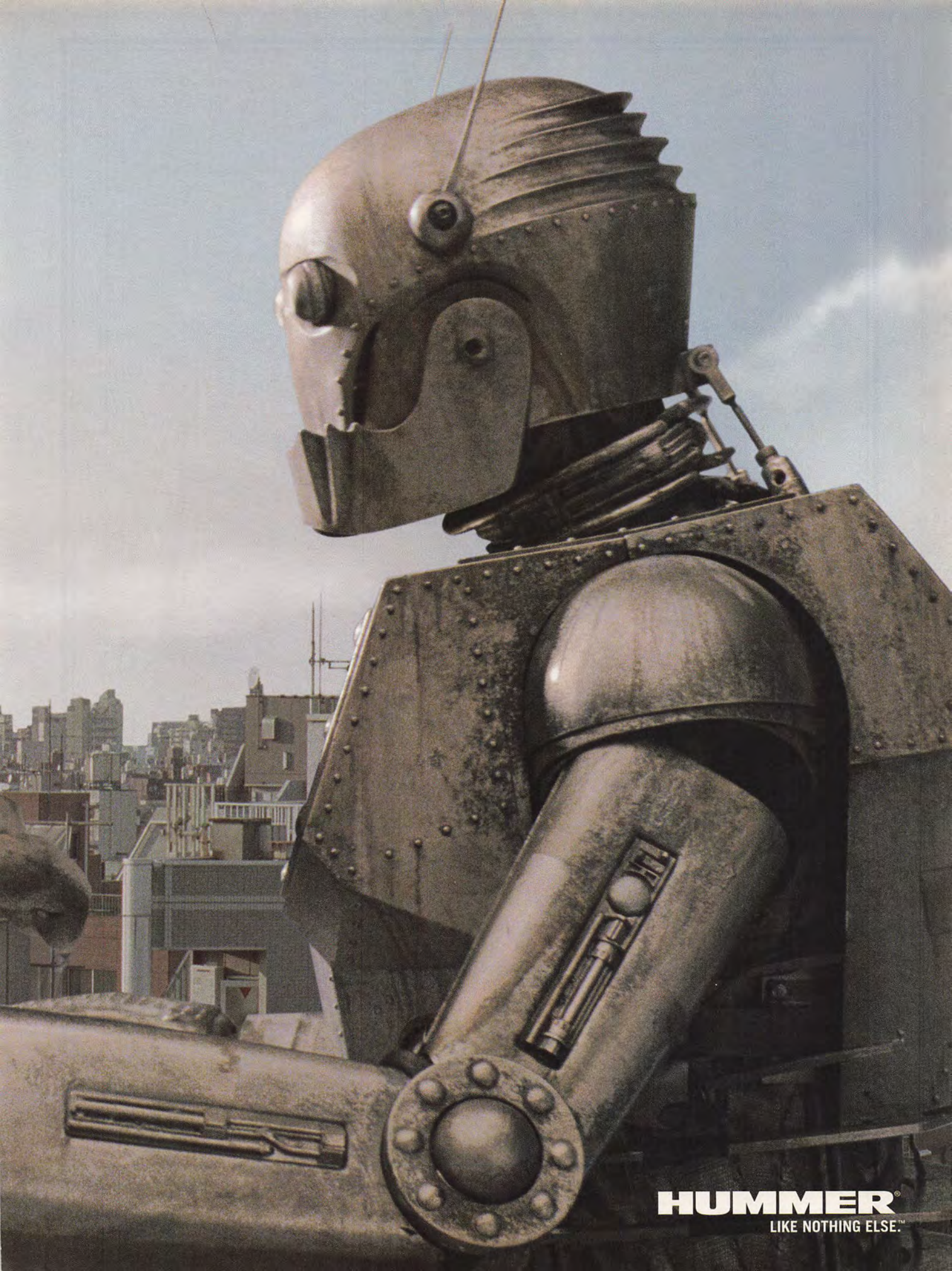
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Net Gains

Photographs by
WALTER IOOSS JR.

Any tennis fan can tell you that Maria Sharapova is a winner on grass, clay and hard courts, but her best surface may be sand

STEVE HOLLAND/AP

SWIMSUIT BY NIKE

WATCH BY TAG HEUER ($3,995)
DIAMOND PENDANTS BY RENEE LEWIS (TOP) $40,000, (BOTTOM) $10,000

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Maria Sharapova

SWIMSUIT BY LULI FAMA ($118)

DIAMOND PENDANT BY RENEE LEWIS ($40,000)

WHO'S THAT GIRL?" said the middle-aged woman strolling on the breathtakingly picturesque beach of Turks and Caicos' Grace Bay Club resort. "Some model, I think," her husband said with a shrug. The sylph in question, Maria Sharapova, is best known as the brightest star in tennis, the heavy hitter who, at age 17, won Wimbledon in 2004. Still, the man on the beach wasn't wrong. For several days last fall, Sharapova luxuriated at one of the more exquisite properties in the Caribbean while posing for SI. The gig involved an entirely different skill than knocking the fuzz off a tennis ball, but Sharapova isn't the world's most marketable female athlete for nothing. "She's a natural, a total professional," says SI photographer Walter Iooss Jr. "I don't mean for an athlete. I mean period." But, hey, don't take his word for it. Just look at these pictures.

■ It wasn't as tough as enduring the heat at the Australian Open, but Sharapova put in a hard three days in Turks and Caicos with longtime SI photographer Iooss, who has shot everyone from Yogi Berra to LeBron James . . . and many, many swimsuit models.

DIANE SMITH

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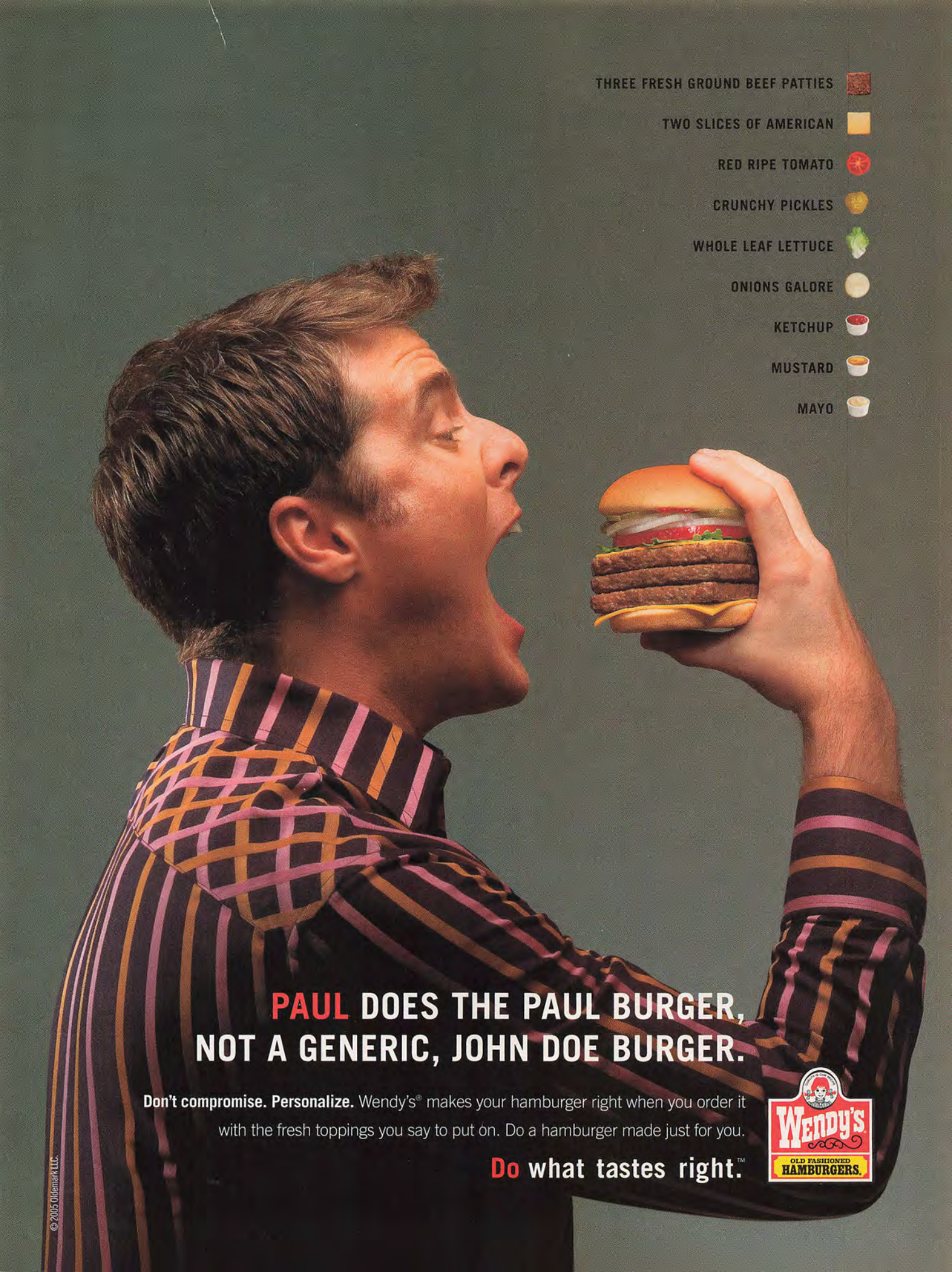
MARIA SHARAPOVA

SWIMSUIT BY NIKE
DIAMOND PENDANT BY KC DESIGNS ($625)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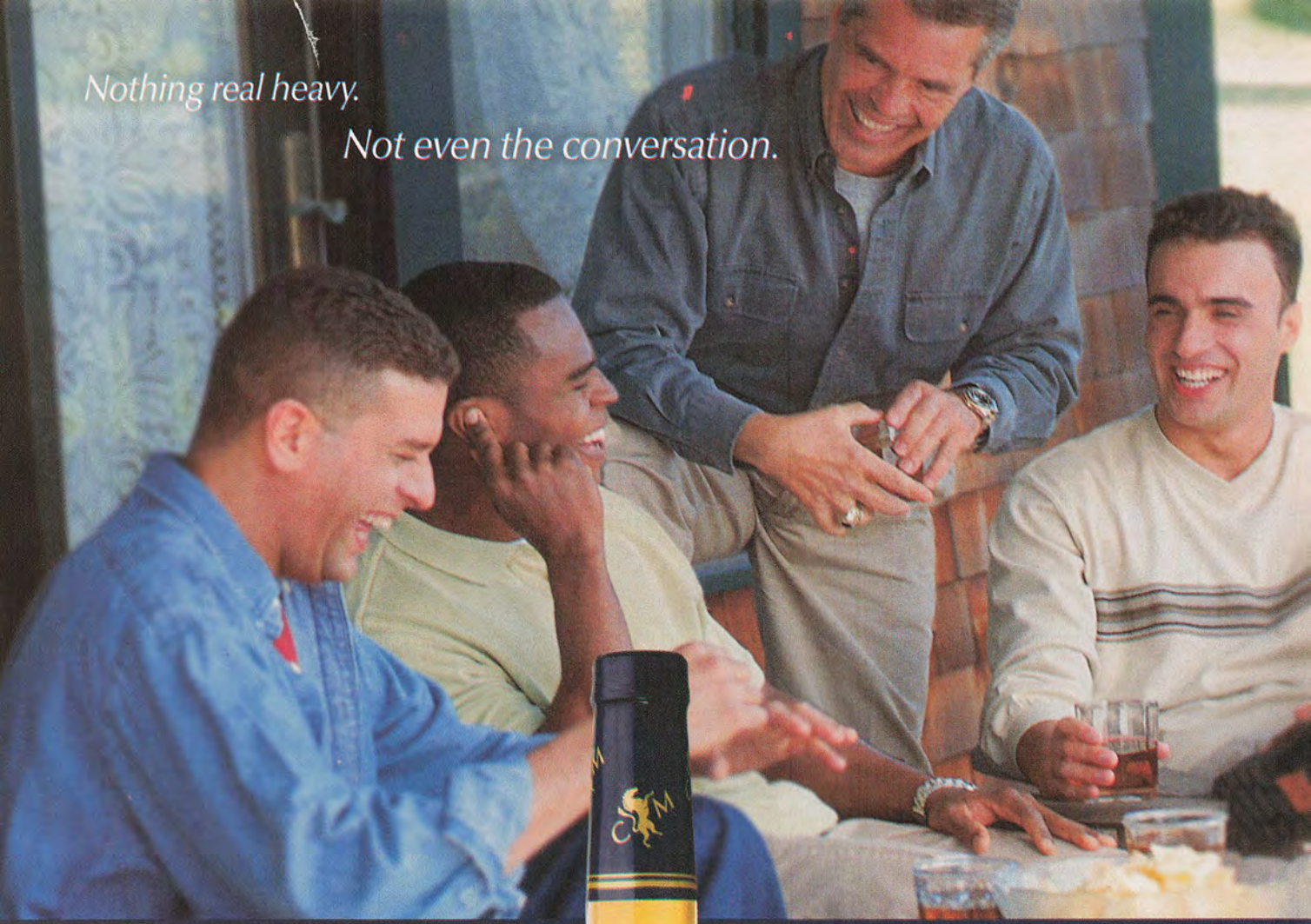

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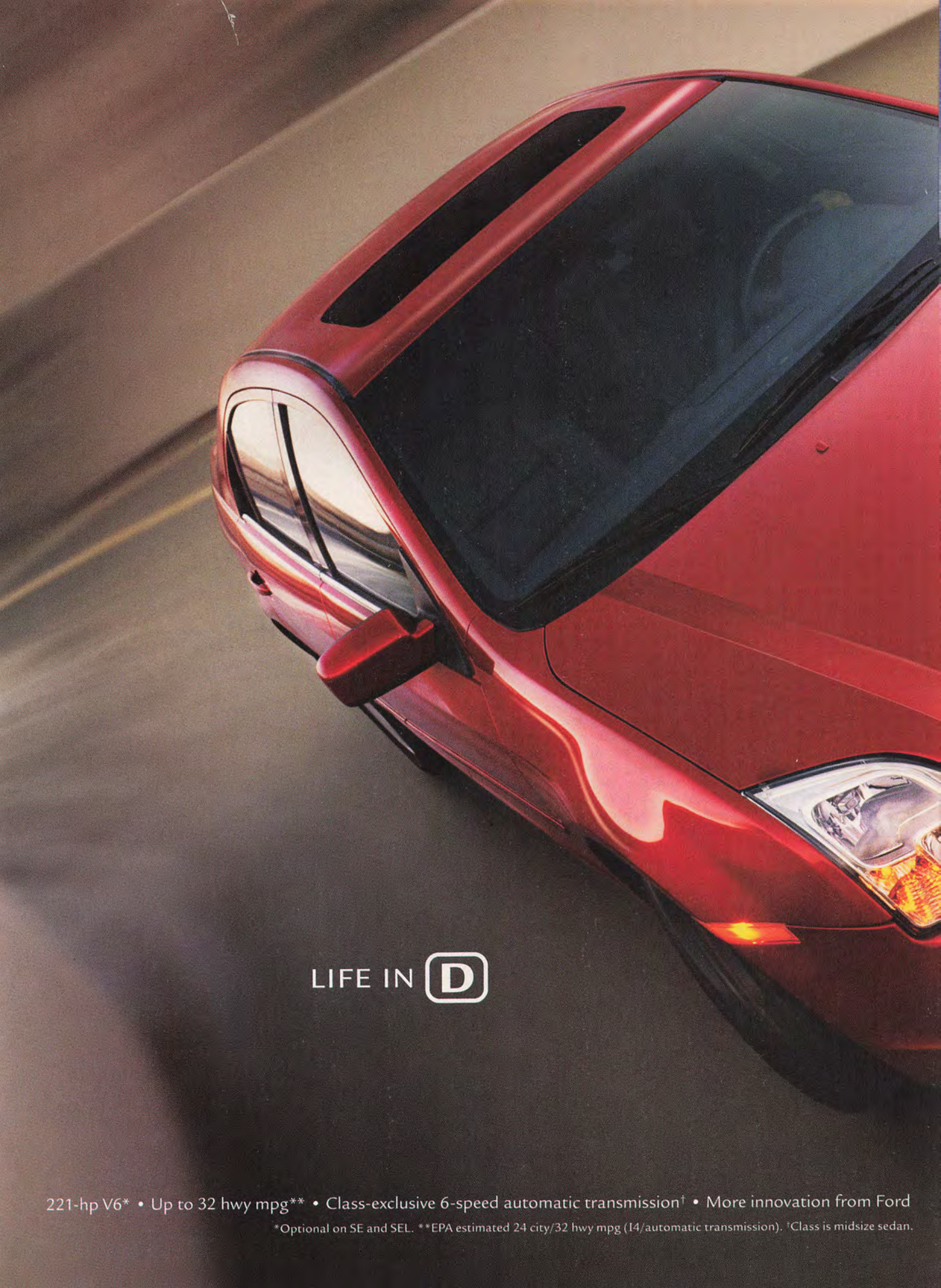

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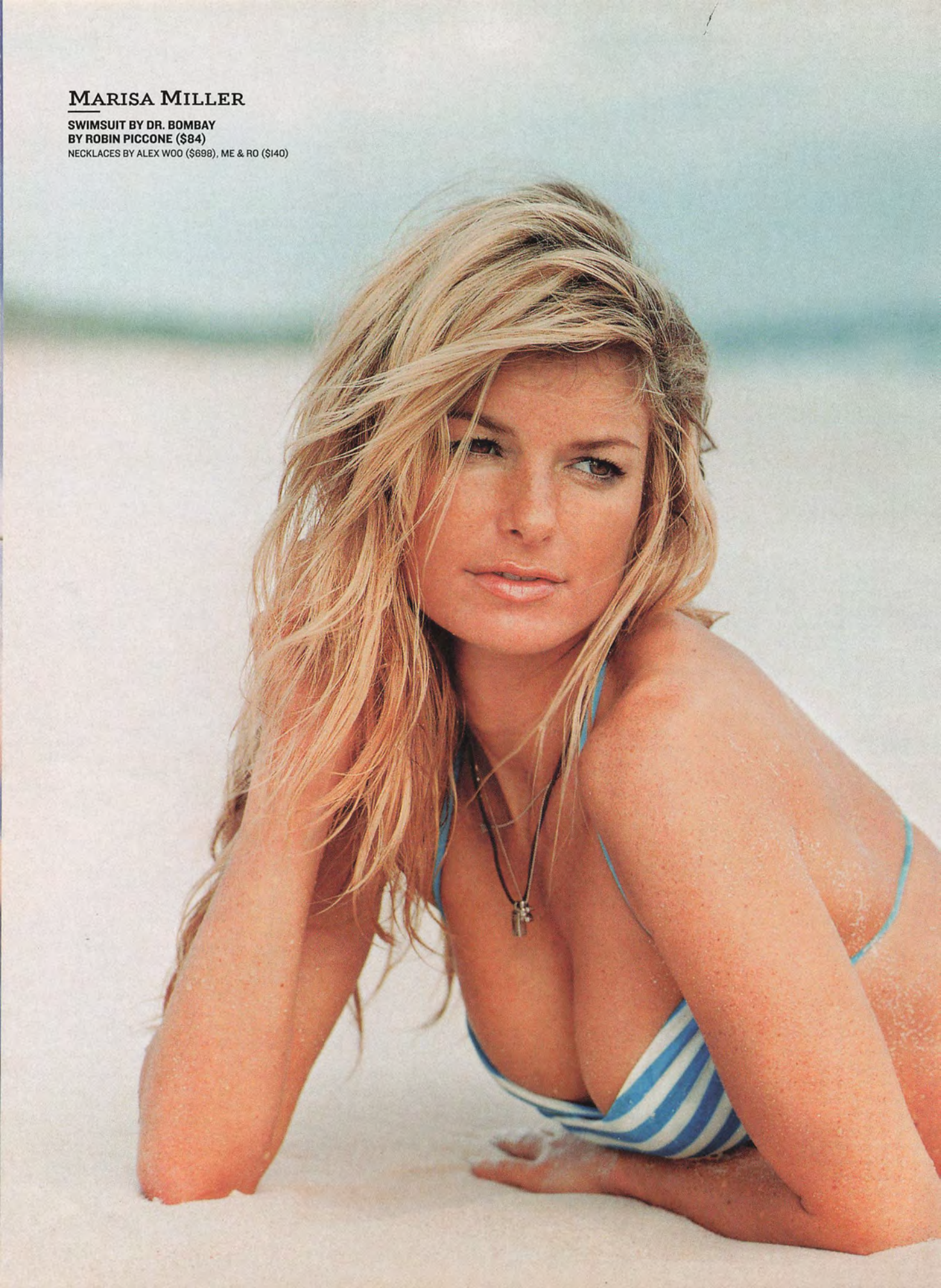

Marisa Miller

SWIMSUIT BY DR. BOMBAY
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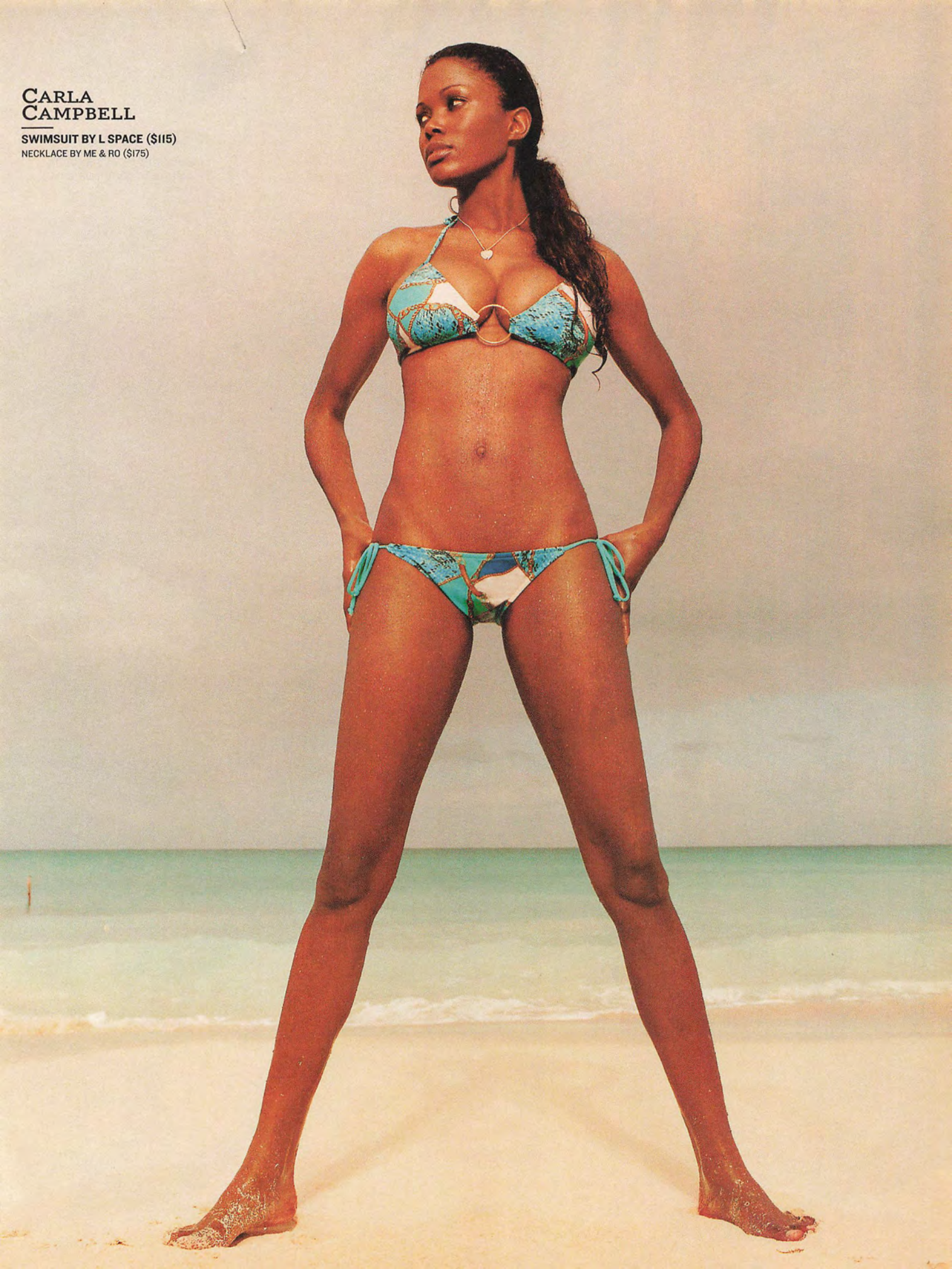
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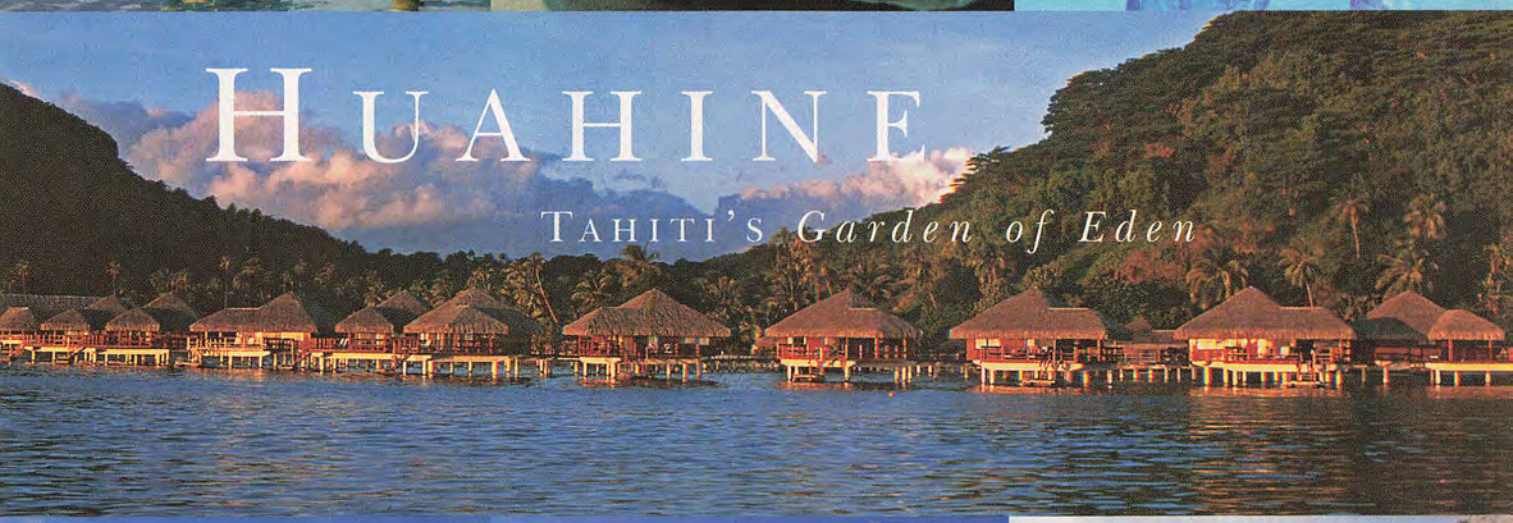

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Bahamas

In the Pink

I CHECKED IN at Fernandez Bay Village as a "single" but soon learned I'd be sharing my lodgings—with a small Caribbean tree frog that took up residence in my bathroom. Tree frogs are plentiful in the Bahamas, so at Fernandez Bay, where every cottage has an alfresco privy, such interspecies cohabitation is common. For our first two days as roommates, I ignored my frog, but I began to reconsider that when proprietor Tony Armbrister told me that the frogs' favorite hangout was inside the guest-room toilets. "They like to jump up," he said with a grin, "when people sit down." Beyond that alarming prospect there isn't much to worry a visitor to Cat Island, a slender, sparsely populated wisp of coral and limestone 325 miles southeast of Miami. It's been a popular getaway for at least 400 years, first for pirates and later for English loyalists after the American Revolution. Its most famous tourist attraction is the small monastery atop Mount Alvernia—which, at 206 feet, is the highest point in the Bahamas—but the island's most seductive lure is its 60 miles of pink-sand beaches. For those who want to get away from it all (or even just from tree frogs), those beaches are ideal spots to focus on nothing but the warmth of the sun and the whisper of the waves. —*Mark Beech*

■ **Marisa Miller and hairstylist Peter Butler catch up on current events, while Bridget Hall takes shelter from the storm; Walter looss Jr. and Daniella Sarahyba show they're not afraid to get wet as they try to get one last shot.**

DIANE SMITH (4)

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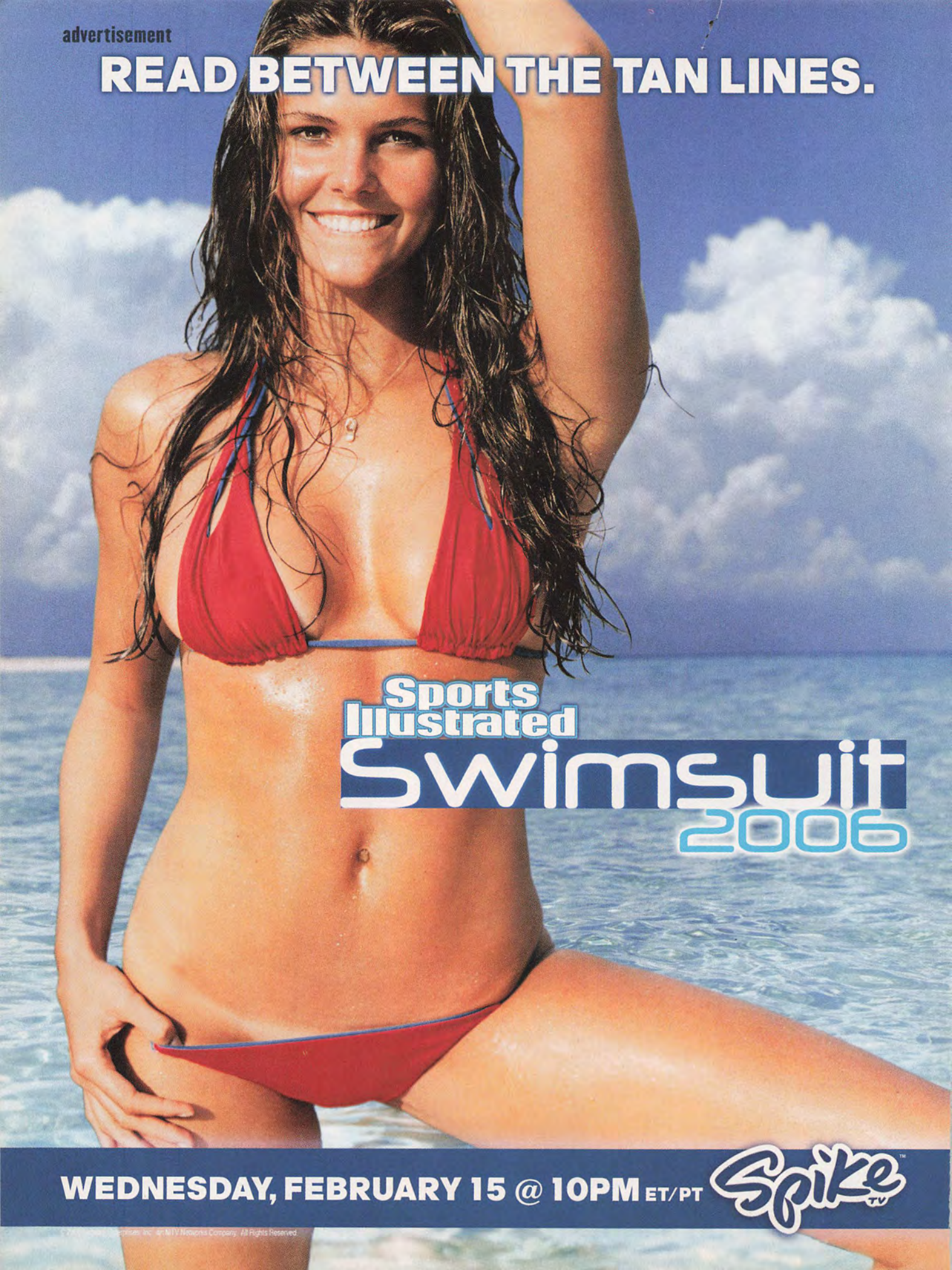

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Cover

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Accommodations

Los Angeles: W Hotel Los Angeles–Westwood, whotels.com, 877-whotels; Production by Barbara Sagami, 310-902-0377; Pink's Famous Hot Dogs, pinkshollywood.com. Bodypainting: Industria Superstudio, 212-366-1114. Tahiti: Te Tiare Beach, an Outrigger Resort, 800-OUTRIGGER, tetiarebeachresort.com; Air travel: Air Tahiti Nui, fly-ATN.com, 877-824-4846; Tahiti Tourisme North America, 310-414-8484, tahiti-tourisme.com. Las Vegas: Wynn Las Vegas Resort & Country Club, 888-320-wynn, wynnlasvegas.com. Colombia: Hotel San Pedro de Majagua, 011-575-664-6070, hotelmajagua.com, majagua.bovedas@hotelsantaclara.com. Harbour Island: Coral Sands, 242-333-2350, coralsands@coralwave.com; bahamas.com, 800-bahamas. Petra Nemcova: The Parker Palm Springs, 760-770-5000, theparkerpalmsprings.com. Maria Sharapova: Grace Bay Club/A Member of Small Luxury Hotels, 800-525-4800, slh.com/gracebay. Cat Island: Fernandez Bay Village, 800-940-1905, fernandezbayvillage.com, 800-bahamas, bahamas.com.

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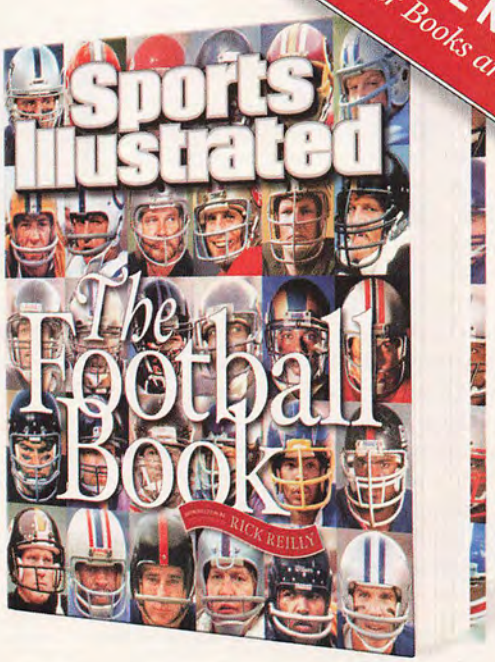

FB05SI

Petra Shines On

by Rick Reilly

PETRA NEMCOVA was drowning the day after Christmas, 2004. One hundred feet inland. Naked. Hanging from a roof. Crazy place to drown, on a roof, but there it was. "I was being sucked down into the water," she says. "Each time, for two or three minutes. I realized, I'm going now. It's over. This is how I die. I let it go. I stopped fighting, and it was pure bliss."

In a way, death would have been a relief. When the tsunami hit the beach of Phuket, Thailand, it swept the 25-year-old Czech supermodel and her boyfriend, British photographer Simon Atlee, out to sea. But then it sucked them back in and deposited them in all the debris it had raked up—metal posts and doors and cars. And one of these things slammed hard into Nemcova, shattering her pelvis, ripping her swimsuit off and tearing the love of her life away forever.

A supermodel lives out of her day planner, but, she says, "Simon taught me to live in the moment. He said, 'Any two days off in a row? That's the weekend! We celebrate!' " And they did, taking time to be together all over the world—from Cape Town to Miami to Vermont. Finally, Nemcova had brought Simon to *her* favorite place, Phuket. But now she was watching him die while he screamed her name, not to be seen again until he was identified in a morgue by DNA testing 69 days later.

She grabbed hold of a floating bungalow roof, but the debris smashed her body over and over. The pain was blinding. And that's when the water overcame her. "I stopped fighting," she says. "And as soon as I let go, I saw the blue sky again."

She careened toward a palm tree and grabbed it. She held on for eight hours that you just can't imagine—repeatedly fainting from the pain and dehydration (the hot sun scorching the gashes in her body, the waves pushing her under trash again and again), seeing nobody but hearing screams. Finally, two Thai men pulled her out, got her on a floating car door and paddled her to the hospital.

And that's when it got worse. "I was in such pain, even the morphine would only last for an hour and a half," says Nemcova. And it wasn't black water drowning her now, it was her grief over Atlee. What could she grab hold of?

Finally, on New Year's Eve, her doctor shook her out of it. "You must not drift into sorrow!" he said. "You must not dwell on the pain and the grief! Think of anything! Anything!"

She thought of a beautiful flower, and felt better. She thought of sunshine, and felt better. Within a day the pain diminished. As the months went by, she began to experience as much beauty as pain. Soon, she saw the duality of all things.

Take the tsunami. "It was horrifying, but it also brought so much love," she says. "It brought so many people together. The world is a more unified place now. People reached out from all over the world. People are helping each other. There's more sense of connection now."

She sees it in herself, too. "I used to think, All these models worrying about this wrinkle or that tiny ounce of fat. Why am I doing this? What's the meaning?" But now she sees it. A percentage of her income—including her work for this issue—goes to the foundation she started for orphaned Thai children: the Happy Hearts Fund. Nemcova has one of those, too, now—a happy heart. But, yeah, she has flashbacks. She'll be at some shoot, posing on some beach, and suddenly she will be flung back there, into hell. *Simon's face. The palm tree. The screams.*

She has gone back many times to Thailand, to the place of her torment, and seen that nothing is the same. The hotel was rebuilt. She can't find the tree she'd clung to. "The landscape seems all new." And isn't *her* landscape all new too? Six months before that wave hit, Simon made Petra a book of all the things he loved about her. After he died, she and it were inseparable. Not anymore. She put it in a safe. "I have to move on," she whispers.

She knows that, sometimes, letting go is what saves you. □

STEWART SHINING

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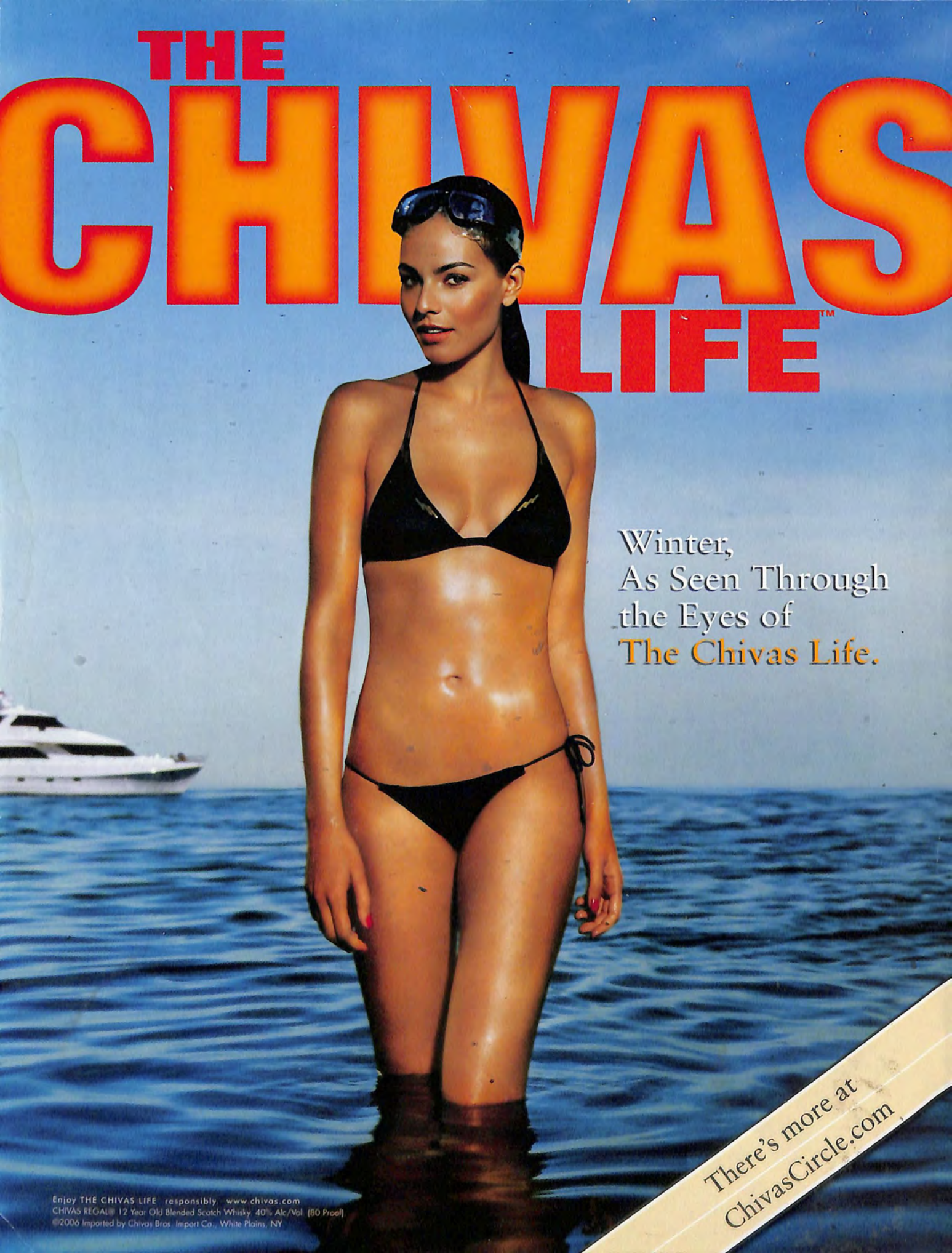
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